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NEWS  
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## Local arts icon killed in crash

Michael Green, co-founder of One Yellow Rabbit and the High Performance Rodeo, was one of five people killed in a car accident near Regina. Pages 16-17.



## MORE SCHOOL FUNDING SOUGHT

As the province issued more warnings about budgetary struggles Wednesday, students like Centennial High School's Alisha Burney, left, and Syameena Pillai said they're already struggling to keep pace due to a lack of one-on-one teaching and other support. New data from the Calgary Board of Education also suggests that classes are as crammed as ever. See story, page 14. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

## RCMP to be sued over guns seizure

**High River.** Report slams Mounties for actions during 2013 flood

A class-action lawsuit will be filed against the RCMP on Thursday over the seizure of hundreds of firearms from High River homes during the 2013 flood, according to a lawyer representing affected residents.

The legal action will come as a new report is released slamming the Mounties for failing to report the weapon seizures to either a court or the public. The report also blames Alberta's "K" Division of the RCMP for a lack of leadership during the crisis.

Clint Docken of Docken Klym, a Calgary law firm that specializes in class actions, said he plans to file a statement of claim Thursday, shortly after the report is made public.

"The class is defined here as all persons resident in High

River who had at least one legally held firearm seized by the RCMP from June 20 to July 10," Docken said of the lawsuit, adding it will argue, in part, that the Mounties violated residents' Charter rights.

The seizures infuriated High River residents and gun-rights advocates alike, including Dennis Young, an Airdrie resident and former RCMP officer who has followed the case closely.

Young said he's not surprised the report from the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP placed much of the blame on the Mounties' senior leadership. "They lost control of their troops," he said.

High River resident Don White, who said he had "about a dozen" long guns taken from his home, hopes the RCMP will publicly apologize.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

For more on the report from the RCMP watchdog, turn to page 18

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# Publication gives voice to homeless veterans

**Awareness.** There are almost 100 known ex-military members living on Calgary streets

JENNIFER FRIESEN  
AND ROBSON FLETCHER  
calgary@metronews.ca

After serving as a flight engineer in the military in the 1970s, Bruce Haslip spent nearly 30 years on the streets, moving from place to place across North America.

"They say one of the most difficult things is moving from one dwelling to another, but people in the military, they're constantly on the move ... and they don't seem to want to stop after they get out," he said. "At least, that's the way I felt about it. I just wanted to keep going — here, there, everywhere."

Haslip has recently settled down, taking up residence at the Madison Building, an affordable-housing complex dedicated to ex-military members in Calgary, but many veterans in the city still find themselves without a permanent home.

As of February, there were 91 known veterans living on the streets of Calgary. Ranging in age from their early 20s to late 70s, most have been homeless since they left the service.

Trish Dribnenki, a local outreach nurse, has been working with Calgary's homeless veteran community for a year and a half. She said the community is unique from other homeless populations she's worked with.

"I soon discovered that they don't usually access services



Trish Dribnenki published the first edition of the *Veteran Street Voice* last November, with the hope of giving homeless veterans the chance to see their name in print. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

like my typical homeless clients do," she said.

"They tend to be very independent; there's a pride about them and they want to make it on their own. As a result, a lot of them sleep rough, they don't access shelters, so they sleep wherever outside."

In 2014, Dribnenki published a magazine of collected art, poems, jokes and stories from the veterans, hoping to give the city a glimpse into the everyday lives of the past Canadian Forces members living on the streets.

Titled the *Veteran Street*

*Voice* and illustrated by Mandy Stobo, the artist behind the *Bad Portraits* series, the collection was meant to give the veterans a chance to see their name in print and share their stories.

Dribnenki said Haslip was also a "huge contributor," writ-

ing articles and taking photos with a disposable camera for the publication.

Haslip hopes the magazine will raise awareness among the general public about the struggles veterans face, but also offer a sense of comfort to his fellow ex-military men and women who are struggling.

"Maybe I had it worse than you or you had it worse than me, but we'll get through it," he said. "All I'm trying to say is: Hang in there."

Dribnenki recently surveyed the veterans and found that, on average, they had been living on the streets for 11.2 years. Everyone surveyed reported having a mental illness, with 93 per cent citing it as untreated.

Citing post-traumatic stress disorder, alcoholism and a lack of support, she said that adjusting to civilian life triggered mental illness or substance abuse in the veterans.

"Some said that when they left the military they didn't feel like a part of society anymore, didn't know how to explain their experience," she said. "So they come back to the civilian world and a lot of them have said that there was very little support, if not no support."

Haslip said he'd like to see more personalized support and followup with veterans to make sure they're getting access to the services they need.

"You can often only get a hold of people online, and I don't even have a computer," he said. "How I am supposed to get a hold of Veterans Affairs?"

Dribnenki is currently looking for funding for the next edition of *Veteran Street Voice*, which is slated to run in June.

1 NEWS



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# Budget cuts will be wide, deep: Minister

## Provincial politics.

No cuts would add \$20 billion in debt over the next three years just to run the government, says Robin Campbell

Alberta Finance Minister Robin Campbell says the cuts in the next budget will be wide and they will be deep.

"We're probably in the neighbourhood of nine per cent reductions for '15-'16," Campbell told a legislature news conference Wednesday.

Campbell said the government is looking at five per cent cuts to departmental spending.

But he said given that the province also won't match the rate of inflation, plus population growth — which is almost four per cent — the result is a nine per cent cut.

He says to do nothing would add \$20 billion in debt over the

## Quoted

**"We're probably in the neighbourhood of nine per cent reductions for '15-'16."**

Finance Minister Robin Campbell

next three years just to run the government.

"We're not about to see that happen," said Campbell, standing alongside Premier Jim Prentice. "We will make the tough decisions we have to in reducing government spending by department."

Campbell will introduce the budget in the legislature next month. No exact date has been set. Prentice has said the precipitous slide in oil prices over the last six months has left a \$7-billion hole in the treasury that needs to be fixed now and for the future.

Earlier Wednesday, several union leaders said the government has refused in recent

meetings to say what they are looking for.

Prentice has ruled out a sales tax, hikes to corporate income taxes and changes to oil royalties, saying those would cause more harm than help.

Also Wednesday, Prentice said he is directing a Tory-dominated all-party committee to meet again to reverse a decision made Tuesday to refund \$546,000 returned to the auditor general from cuts in this year's budget.

Opposition members said that once again, as in the oil trough of the 1990s, Albertans will pay for the Tories' failure to follow through on their long-standing promise to wean day-to-day spending off resource revenues.

"Everything is deja vu all over again," said Liberal Laurie Blakeman. "There is an alternative. There are all kinds of revenue streams that have been outlined that the government can take advantage of."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Premier Jim Prentice speaks during a news conference in Edmonton on Wednesday. DEAN BENNETT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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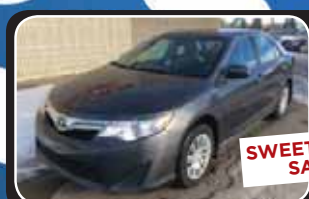
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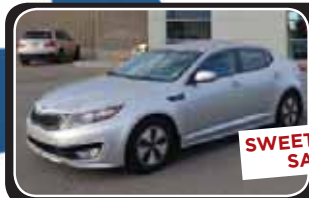
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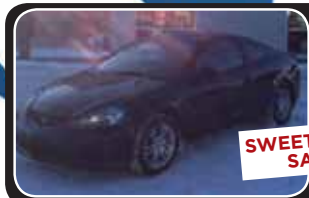
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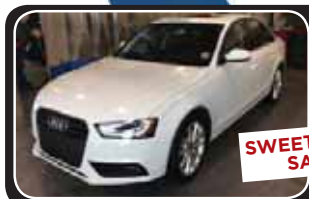
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# Only one wall of Elbow Park to be spared

More of Calgary's historic Elbow Park School will be demolished than originally planned after a push to spare three walls of the flood-battered building garnered no offerings that would keep the project on budget.

The school, which opened in 1926, sustained heavy damage during last June's historic flood. Alberta Education made the decision to press ahead with rebuilding the school despite cries from some parents that the need for a new build-

ing closer to them was greater.

Originally, Gibbs Gage Architect had produced schematics that depicted the salvaging of three existing brick walls and an initial project cost came it at roughly \$16 million.

But a review of offers on a tender package for specialist demolition and foundation work came in over budget, according to Frank Coppinger, the Calgary Board of Education's superintendent of facilities. He indicated that the only

bids to perform the work came from outside of Calgary's construction circles.

"It's unfortunate that in our first tender package that the local construction companies didn't obviously feel comfortable in submitting a bid to do that," Coppinger said. "It's, I guess, something outside their area of expertise."

A new package has been produced that would see only the school's north wall, billed as the "most significant" from a

historical perspective, would be spared. "Certainly, with only retaining one wall ... we believe that could be done by local companies," Coppinger said.

He said the project remains on budget and the goal is still to open the new Elbow Park School in late 2016.

The school's library, which many parents described as one of the school's greatest attractions, won't be saved, but its design "will be replicated," Coppinger said. **JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO**



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It appears construction will get underway within weeks on a long-awaited elementary school in New Brighton. **METRO FILE**

# CBE says new schools won't meet demand

**Construction.** Building of 5 new schools likely to begin soon and be complete by Sept. 2016



**JEREMY NOLAÏS**  
[jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca](mailto:jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca)

Calgary's public school board is lowering projections on the number of new students that will come through their doors this year but says the urgent need for additional learning space remains.

Construction on five planned schools — in Evanston, Saddle Ridge, Copperfield, New Brighton and Rocky Ridge — will likely spring to life later this month and remain on target to be ready for students by September 2016.

The awarding of contracts to build another six schools also due for that fall has yet to occur, but should in short order, according to Frank Coppinger, the Calgary Board of Education's superintendent of facilities.

As construction crunch time nears, Amy Care, a mother in McKenzie Towne, which is due for a new middle school next year, said concerns of delays are coming more frequently from parents. She helped lobby for the facility in the first place, however, and remains confident it will open on time.

"I have received no indication that ours won't be going ahead and have been told it's

still on schedule," Care said. "Until I hear otherwise, we're going with that assumption."

Larger questions still surround plans for four "starter schools" announced by the province in the fall that were to be completed on the same timeline. Coppinger said the hope is an announcement of full funding for those schools will come within a month, or he said it will be "difficult" to have those modular-based facilities — planned for Aspen Woods, Cranston, Saddle Ridge and West Springs — ready on schedule.

But even with talk of drastically reduced prices of oil and multibillion-dollar gaps in the provincial budget, Coppinger said there's no indication of a school construction slowdown.

"We can only act on the information we've received to date and, certainly, the numbers that the province have confirmed, they have not backed off their position, we've heard nothing officially to change that," he said.

The CBE had originally predicted it would take in more than 4,000 additional students this fall, marking potentially the organization's largest single-year growth on record. But Coppinger said a slowing of the economy has led CBE planners to trim that number by one-third. Even then, he said, utilization of CBE schools stands at a cramped 87 per cent.

"We would like to get back to the normal requirement of 80 per cent utilization," Coppinger said.

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## ALERT. Police seize \$5M in drugs, make 12 arrests after 'major operation'

There's a lot less cocaine on the streets in Alberta today after a major bust by Alberta law enforcement.

Police in Alberta have arrested 12 people in connection to a massive drug bust that saw more than \$5 million in cocaine, fentanyl and other drugs seized by police.

According to a release from the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT), Calgary police and RCMP executed seven search warrants in Calgary on Feb. 4, disrupting an organized-crime network alleged to have been distributing drugs throughout Alberta.

Staff Sgt. Jason Seper with ALERT said the investigation into the group started a year ago and called it a "major operation" for law enforcement in the province.

"Lots goes into it," he told Metro. "Lots of complexity and lots of sophis-

### Quoted

**"It's safe to say it did make a big impact, the communities that we police are safer."**

Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams Staff Sgt. Jason Seper, on the major drug bust that led to 12 arrests

tication, but that's what's required to take down an equally sophisticated and complex organization like we did."

ALERT will provide media with an update on the scope of the bust on Thursday. Seper said the impact will be felt by those consuming and distributing illegal substances on the street.

"It's safe to say it did make a big impact, the communities that we police are safer," he said. "Obviously, that's a massive amount of drugs off the street."

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

# Calgary shipwreck survivors mostly satisfied with verdict



Andrea and Laurence Davis pose with a photo of the Costa Concordia. METRO FILE

### Costa Concordia.

Captain of luxury liner given 16-year sentence over his role in the sea disaster that left 32 dead



ROBSON FLETCHER  
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

A Calgary couple who were forced to swim for their lives after the Costa Concordia cruise liner capsized in 2012 are mostly satisfied with the 16-year sentence handed down Wednesday to its captain.

"It's better than nothing," said Laurence Davis. "I would have been pretty upset if he only got five years or something like that. So I was OK with 16 years, but would have liked more."

Laurence was on vacation with his wife Andrea on the ill-fated voyage that saw the ship smash into rocks and capsize

off the Tuscan Island of Giglio, killing 32 people. An Italian court sentenced the captain, Francesco Schettino, to 10 years in prison on 32 counts of manslaughter, five more years for causing the shipwreck and one year for abandoning the ship while many of the luxury liner's 4,200 passengers and crew were still aboard.

The court added an extra month for Schettino's downplaying the gravity of the problem in his communications with maritime authorities.

Davis said his wife's sentiment to the verdict is "slightly different" than his.

"She feels reasonable justice has been done," he said. "I'm a bit more of the hard-line guy."

Overall, he hopes the verdict and sentence will bring some sense of closure to the victims.

"But people will always remember — it's never done," he said. "Every time we step back on a ship and go sailing, it'll be with us."

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## Relocating

Shaw closing  
Alberta call centres

Shaw is closing its Alberta call centres in Edmonton and Calgary and relocating nearly 1,400 positions to other parts of the country.

The company announced the closure of the call centres in Alberta, as well as one in Kelowna, with services being centralized in Victoria, Vancouver, Winnipeg and

Montreal.

Shaw plans to close its Edmonton centre, which had 390 positions, in June, and the Calgary one, which had 1,000 operators, by January 2016. The company said they wanted to maintain Canadian operations, but centralize their employees to improve service.

Premier Jim Prentice said he was disappointed, adding there could be more job losses in the province.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO IN EDMONTON

## Politics

Wildrose Party  
spurns Rob Anders

It appears as though the options for former Calgary MP Rob Anders' return to politics are thinning.

The Wildrose Party issued a statement Wednesday, saying Anders would be declared ineligible to run for the party.

"After reviewing Mr. Rob Anders' leadership application, and conducting an

interview with Mr. Anders, the Wildrose Executive Committee voted unanimously last night not to accept his application," said Wildrose Party president Jeff Callaway.

Anders was defeated in April 2014 by Ron Liepert for the Conservative nomination in the newly formed riding of Calgary-Signal Hill. Later in September, Anders' return to politics was again thwarted when he tried to get the Conservative nomination in the Bow River riding. **METRO**

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The IndyCar owned by Schmidt Peterson Motorsports and operated by driver James Hinchcliffe is seen in this photo. Team co-owner Ric Peterson, a Calgary businessman, is meeting with city officials next week to discuss whether there's a possibility of bringing the open-wheel racing series to town. **CONTRIBUTED**

## Peterson to talk with officials on racing in Calgary

### Rev your engines.

Team co-owner says city is the 'right place' to bring IndyCar



**JEREMY  
NOLAÏS**  
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

### Quoted

**"We would need to have the mayor (Naheed Nenshi) on our side and if he's totally against, we'd be butting our heads against the wall."**

Ric Peterson, IndyCar team co-owner

It remains to be seen if it's merely a pipe dream, but a racing team co-owned by a Calgary entrepreneur is pushing to bring IndyCar to Calgary.

Ric Peterson, owner of Oculus Transport and co-owner of Schmidt Peterson Motorsports, has a meeting next week with city special events officials to discuss whether the checkered flag could ever really be raised in his hometown.

"I just think Calgary is the right place for it," Peterson said in an interview Wednesday. "We have lots of head offices here, so lots of corporate support ... and it would just bring a lot of money to the city."

Peterson is still waiting for some figures on what kind of financial boon an IndyCar event could be, but he estimates somewhere between 70,000 and 100,000 race fans would turn out for the first Calgary edition alone.

Peterson has given some thought to a venue too, and believes the Calgary Stampede grounds could be perfect for cars to make the rounds. He, however, has yet to pitch those behind The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth on the idea.

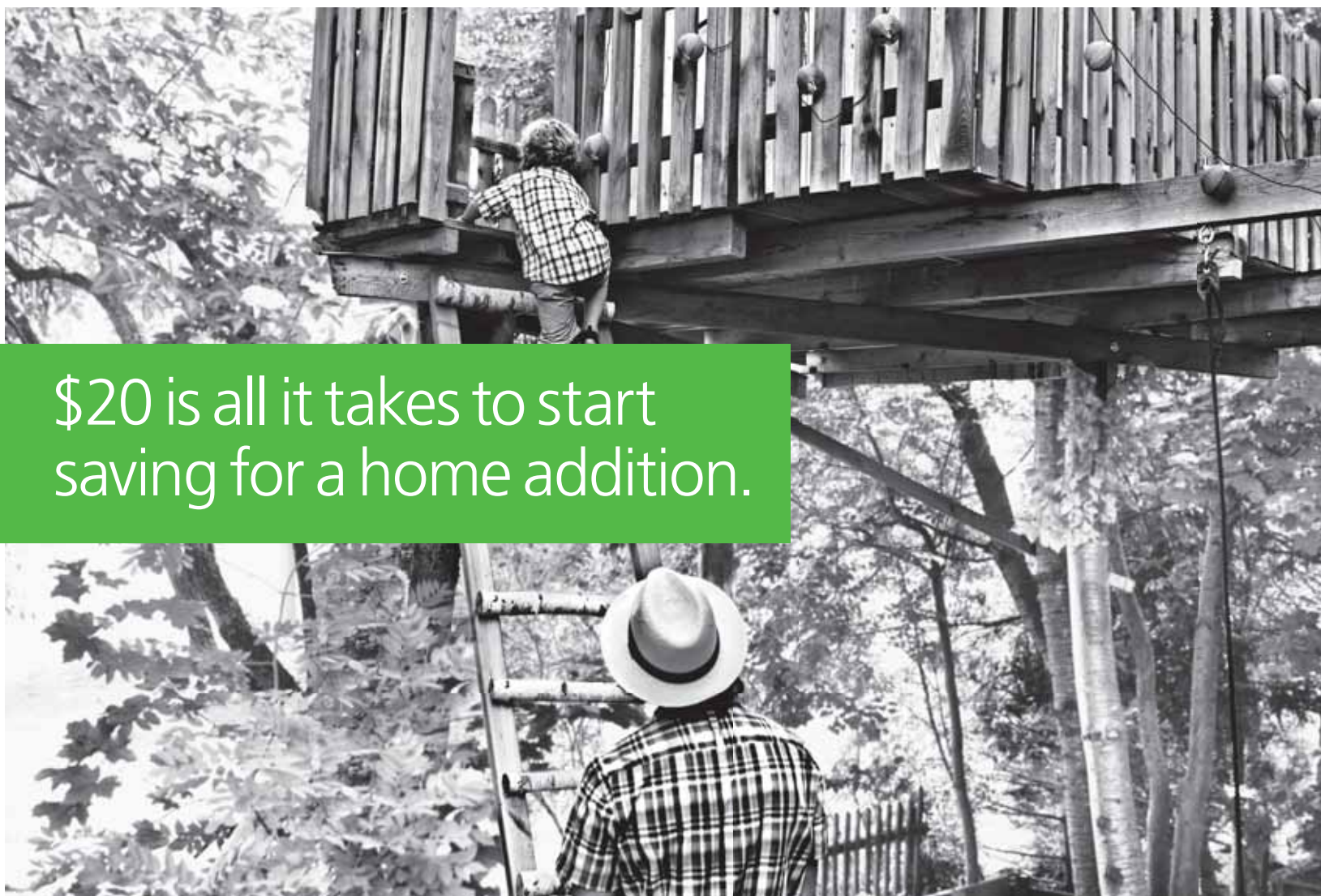
Edmonton's annual IndyCar outing came to an end in September 2012 after eight years. At the time, organizer Octane Motorsports attributed their pullout of a 2013 race to a lack of spectators.

"This year's attendance was good, but we were also convinced that the event, especially with the quality of the spectacle offered, should have attracted many more spectators over its three days," the group said at the time.

Since that decision, Toronto has remained the only Canadian stop on the IndyCar circuit, but now Peterson is on a mission to change that. He said fellow owners of Indy teams fully support his meeting with city officials, but cautioned that the discussions were only preliminary.

"I kind of wanted to meet somebody, see if they can steer me in the right direction and if there's any interest," he said. "We would need to have the mayor (Naheed Nenshi) on our side and if he's totally against, we'd be butting our heads against the wall."

A spokesperson for the city confirmed the meeting with Peterson next week.



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Glen Gieschen

## Man who plotted attack on VA office should serve four to six years: Crown

The Crown says a former military officer who planned to attack the Veterans Affairs office in Calgary still poses a danger to the public.

Prosecutor Doug Simpson says Glen Gieschen should serve a sentence of four to

six years for his planned attack in January 2014.

He says although Gieschen claims he planned to commit suicide, the large amount of firearms he was found with indicates the plan was no fantasy.

Gieschen, who had a beef with the military, claimed he was the head of military intelligence but court heard he was a 2nd lieutenant when he was put on long-term disability.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Outstanding warrants

## Police ask for help to locate wanted man

The Calgary Police Service is asking for help from the public in locating a man wanted on several outstanding warrants.

According to a CPS release, Harvey Peter Peacemaker, 49, is a high-risk domestic offender who is currently being monitored by the CPS Habitual Offender and Man-

agement Enforcement Team. He's currently wanted for assault and for three counts of breaching conditions.

Police say it is possible the offender has left Calgary and note he is known to frequent nearby First Nations communities, but police say he is known to go as far as Vancouver. Peacemaker is described by police as an Aboriginal male, roughly six-feet in height, weighing roughly 170 lbs., with brown eyes and black hair. **METRO**

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Sewage is treated in a clarifier at Calgary's Bonnybrook Wastewater Treatment Plant in this file photo. Tiny bits of gold are likely floating about somewhere in there, but the city says it's not worth it to extract precious metal from the "biosolids." **ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO**

# Metals flushed down toilets not worth mining: City

**'Biosolids.'** Officials say that agriculture remains the best use of sewage 'resource'



**ROBSON FLETCHER**  
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

There's about \$13 million in trace amounts of gold, silver and other valuable metals mixed in with the sewage created each year by a community of Calgary's size, according to a new study, but city officials say they have no plans to start "mining" it.

The value estimate comes from scientists at Arizona State University, who published their findings this month in the journal Environmental Science & Technology after analyzing sludge samples from cities around the United States.

Various metals are known to accumulate in sewage from household wastewater, industrial effluent and storm runoff.

Natasha Harchkham, a senior regulatory analyst for "biosolids" (the organic matter left over when sewage is "dewatered"), said the idea of pulling precious metals out of poop comes up every so often, but it's just not feasible or cost-effective for Calgary.

Still, she added: "We want to make use of this resource."

Most of the biosolids from Calgary's wastewater are currently injected into nearby agricultural land as fertilizer but the farmers' fields can only take so much, and the city's growth means a new plan is needed.

That's why about half of the new, industrial-scale composting facility the city plans to start building later this year will be dedicated to turning excess biosolids into compost, which can then be sold.

Orin MacIntyre, team lead for the new organics facility, said the indoor, aerobic composting method can process material in about three months — half the time as traditional, outdoor compost heaps.

The city hopes the facility, which will also process household organic waste collected from Calgary's planned "green bins," will open by 2017.

At least one municipality in Japan has been incinerating its sewage sludge and processing it to find gold yields that rival the ore found in mines, but Harchkham said Calgary's most efficient use is for agriculture.

"That's the beneficial use that works best for their country, just because of their geography," she said of the Japanese approach.

Calgary is also considering creating a willow-tree farm on "marginal" agricultural land, she added, to make further use of the city's growing output of biosolids.

"The application of the biosolids will actually improve the soils out there and hopefully make them more productive," she said. "And, while that's happening, there's a willow crop we could be harvesting."

Willow trees grow exceptionally fast, Harchkham said, and can offer a "quite significant" harvest within three years. The wood can be used as "feed stock" in the composting program or in other applications, she said.

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Syameena Pillai is pointing the blame at the provincial government as she struggles to keep up in classrooms with 40 students crammed in. She said there's also a lack of tutorial time and other supports at her school, Centennial.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

# Students say province putting futures at risk

**Education.** Class sizes keep getting bigger



JEREMY NOLAIS

jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Grade 11 student Syameena Pillai is enrolled in two classes with 40 students and another with 35 this semester.

At her Centennial High School, there are just three guidance counsellors to assist more than 1,900 students with things like class changes, post-secondary preparation and other rigours of study.

When Pillai is handed back an essay, there's a mark, but no comments — she says the teachers simply don't have time.

"Even if, by chance, we do get into university we won't know what we've done wrong," she said in an interview Wednesday, while friend and fellow Grade 11 student Alisha Burney nodded along in agreement.

Pillai said students wanting some help in morning tutorial periods generally have to arrive by 7:30 a.m. to get in line for the teacher before classes start at 9 a.m.

"Don't get us wrong, we have really great teachers and I like our administration, our principal a lot, but they can only do so much," Pillai continued.

Tensions are high in education circles as the province continues to warn of tough times ahead. On Wednesday, Finance Minister Robin Campbell said departmental spending will be slashed "in the neighbourhood" of nine per cent, but it's not yet clear what the trickle-down effect will be on schools like Centennial.

But Calgary Board of Education trustee Joy Bowen-Eyre has already made it clear that a major boost in dollars will be needed just for her organization to balance its books as it continues to take in thousands of extra students annually.

Newly released class-size

data from her organization indicates that average headcounts have continued to trend upwards, albeit only slightly. At the high school level, students like Pillai and Burney are learning in rooms that average 29.9 students, up from about 29.6 the year prior. But that marginal jump comes on the heels of a spike from 26.8 students per room two years ago after the organization opted to cut heavily from senior-student funding. The figures provided also include option classes where enrolment numbers are often intentionally kept small.

Bowen-Eyre said the cramped classrooms can be "directly attributed" to reductions in per-student funding dating back to 2012. That year, the CBE received about \$9,540 per learner, now it receives less than \$9,480. The organization has a whole is already projecting a funding deficit of \$33.3 million for the 2015-16 school year and that number will balloon to \$61.1 million over two years.

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United Way of Calgary CEO and president Lucy Miller, centre, presents Brian Boulanger of ARC Financial Corp, left, and Lorraine Mitchelmore of Shell Canada as the new co-chairs of the United Way's 2015 fundraising campaign.

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

# United Way names leaders for 2015 push

**Fundraising.**  
'Corporate Calgary leaders' taking the helm of 2015 campaign amid bleak economy in Alberta



MORGAN MODJESKI  
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The United Way has announced the co-chairs for its 2015 fundraising campaign, and officials say they're the perfect pair to rally the city in hard economic times.

Described as "corporate Calgary leaders" Brian Boulanger of ARC Financial Corp. and Lorraine Mitchelmore of Shell Canada were announced as the two people to lead the charge on behalf of the United Way at its Spirits of Gold event on Wednesday morning.

"They are people who see the possibilities and that's what you need when a city is facing maybe a downturn in the economy," said Lucy Miller, president and CEO of the United Way of Calgary and Area.

"We need people who see that these are opportunities to prioritize and I think they'll be people who will be able to excite the city about the possibilities," Miller said.

Brian Boulanger, who has been working with ARC Financial Corp. since 1997, is also a former chairman of

the United Way's board of directors. Seeing the work the agency can do first hand, he said he's honoured to work with such a "smart" and "innovative" organization.

While Boulanger acknowledged that dropping oil prices might have an impact on residents' ability to give, he's confident that Calgarians will rise to the occasion.

"By getting involved, you get back way more than you give," he said.

"In good times and in bad times it's important to get involved and engaged because it will lift your spirits; It will engage you as a Calgarian and it will make you excited to live in the city that we do."

Co-chair Mitchelmore, who has been with Shell Canada since 2002, said in a release that Shell and the United Way have had a 30-year partnership and believes in change at the local level by "winning on social issues and investing in our community."

In 2014, the United Way of Calgary and Area managed to raise a record \$59.7 million.

Miller said after more than seven decades of work, she's confident residents will come forward to embrace the United Way again this year.

"We're going to go to Calgarians and we're going to say, 'it's our 75th year, if you've never been involved in United Way, could you please step up this year,'" she said.

## Education

### Juno program gets a lifeline

Families fighting to boost the student ranks at a Calgary academy focused on Canada's history and military achievements appear to have been extended a lifeline.

Juno Beach Academy's student enrolment has declined sharply in recent years, and the initial plans were to fold the program into Queen

Elizabeth High School or shut down the program entirely.

But on Wednesday, the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) area director and director of planning suggested a "campus concept" that would see Juno's students use the facilities at Lord Beaverbrook High School while Beaverbrook students, in turn, would also have the option of heading to Juno to study up on Canada's history.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

## Banff National Park

### Body of missing military man found

The body of a military search-and-rescue technician who died after being buried in deep snow during a training exercise on an Alberta mountain was recovered Wednesday.

Lake Louise RCMP said the body of Sgt. Mark Salesse was located around the ice-climbing route



Sgt. Mark Salesse  
CONTRIBUTED

where Salesse was practicing his skills last Thursday.

Salesse, 44, was swept off the route in Banff National Park by an

avalanche that pushed him off a cliff.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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A performance at the Festival of Animated Objects. CONTRIBUTED

## Festival. Animated Objects to feature eclectic artists

One of the city's most unique festivals announced its lineup Wednesday morning.

The seventh bi-annual International Festival of Animated Objects runs March 7 to 15, and features an array of eclectic artists from across North America and such countries as Israel and Belgium.

Celebrated Calgary company The Old Trout Puppet Workshop will bring back its popular show, Famous Puppet Death Scenes, as well as its new young-audience production, Trunk Puppet, which has its Western Canadian premiere March 14 and 15 at the No. 1 Legion downtown.

Other highlights include The House by the Lake from Israel's Hazira Performance Art Arena, The White Woman by Montreal's Magali Chouinard, In The Workshop by Belgium's Top Theatre and the saucy stylings of The Dolly Wiggler Cabaret, hosted by former Calgarian and current Cirque du Soleil performer Mooky Cornish.

Performances take place at the No. 1 Legion, EMMedia, Cite des Rocheuses, Theatre Junction Grand and Arts Common. Ticket information, show details and festival schedule can be found at [animatedobjects.ca](http://animatedobjects.ca).

LISA WILTON/FOR METRO

# 'Blow to Calgary's arts community'

**Michael Green.** Arts icon one of five killed in head-on collision



BACKSTAGE PASS  
Lisa Wilton  
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The news came trickling in late Tuesday night about a fatal highway crash in Saskatchewan, which would be distressing in any instance.

But there was a name tagged to this post: Michael Green.

Surely not the same Michael Green who co-founded the internationally renowned One Yellow Rabbit Theatre Company and curated the innovative music and arts festival High Performance Rodeo?

Not the same Michael Green

who, as creative producer of Calgary 2012, helped make the city's year as Canada's Cultural Capital a smashing success?

Certainly not the same Michael Green who recently returned to the stage in OYR's riveting new production, What the Thunder Said, and made a hilarious appearance on Bruce McCulloch's new TV show, Young Drunk Punk.

Not the man who so passionately worked with aboriginal artists and performers on the groundbreaking theatrical presentation and film, Making Treaty 7, or the friendly guy who always greeted me with a big smile when I'd run into him on a downtown street corner.

But my heart sank as it dawned on me that this energetic, intelligent and fiercely creative individual was gone, one of five people killed in a head-on collision near Regina.

### A legacy

The most comforting thing I can say now is, at least he existed. He was a major force in shaping the arts and culture in this city, and for that, we should be thankful.

I first met Michael, very briefly, in 1990 when I was part of a high school theatre group that performed during one of the earlier Rodeos.

Frankly, I was terrible and unsurprisingly my acting career never took off. But another member of our troupe, Romana King, did try to make a go at a theatre career. She recalls how Michael took her under his wing, which is something he did regularly for aspiring artists, playwrights and other creative types.

"He got me auditions and introduced me to significant theatre people," she says.

"He gave me his insight and we chatted about life, choices, education, art and politics. He was truly a bright spark."

I have many fond memories of Michael — witnessing his unique energy on stage; long, engaging interviews over coffee about various shows; random conversations about music and film; not to mention sharing a few (okay, more than a few) pints at the Ship & Anchor Pub.

The loss of Michael Green is a huge blow to Calgary's arts community. His impact on the city's cultural scene cannot be understated nor fully addressed in this space.

*"Sometimes all you have to do is show up and just be yourself."* Alexis Hillyard

An advocate for sexual and gender minorities, loving sister, daughter and friend, and a proud gay woman, Alexis Hillyard is example of the positive results of mentoring. Together with other leaders in our community, Alexis is spreading the word that mentoring can have a real impact on the lives of young people.

"Littles" come from all ethnicities, backgrounds and personal circumstances. In Edmonton and area, young people are waiting for a volunteer to step forward and be their friend. If you have a couple of hours a week and want to make a difference, please join us.

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Michael Green, Calgary arts icon and co-founder of One Yellow Rabbit and High Performance Rodeo, was one of five people killed in a car crash near Regina. CONTRIBUTED

## WEEKEND EVENTS

### FRIDAY FUMBLING TOWARDS ECSTASY AT THE JUBILEE

Alberta Ballet's visually sumptuous production, based on the music of songstress Sarah McLachlan, enjoyed a successful 2011. This latest Director's Cut features new choreography set to songs from McLachlan's latest album, Shine On.

### FRIDAY IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT AT THE CALGARY ZOO

Learn about mating rituals in the animal kingdom during Calgary Zoo's popular and light-hearted annual Valentine's Day event. What could be more romantic than a candlelit dinner in the Zoo's Enmax Conservatory Gardens while discovering the wooing tricks of marsupials?

### SATURDAY MOZART AND SCHUMANN AT THE JACK SINGER CONCERT HALL

For some classical culture on Valentine's Day, try the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra's presentation of Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante, Schumann's Third Symphony and Chaminade's Flute Concertino, conducted by CPO alumnus Hans Graf.

### SUNDAY TARZAN OF THE APES AT LOUGHEED HOUSE

The 1918 silent film starring Elmo Lincoln and Enid Markey is the final film in the Lougheed House War Years Series and will be accompanied by a live piano soundtrack. Tickets are \$40 for the gala. For more info, go to [lougheedhouse.com](http://lougheedhouse.com).





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CALGARY

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Thursday, February 12, 2015

# 'Gun grab' overshadowed aid effort, watchdog says

## Alberta floods.

Report says RCMP actions during 2013 flood beset by failures of leadership

A new watchdog report says the RCMP's forced home entries and gun seizures during the 2013 flood in High River, Alta., were partially authorized by law but slams the Mounties for failing to report the weapon seizures to a court or to the public.

The inquiry by the newly renamed Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP determined the RCMP's actions during the June 2013 flood were beset by failures of leadership and communications that overshadowed the aid effort and turned the rescue operation into a "gun grab" story.

The report is a detailed chronicling of how not to respond to a natural disaster. It makes 10 recommendations on how to avoid a repeat of the mistakes.

And it will be seen by many as vindication of the anger voiced by citizens and Prime Minister Stephen Harper over the gun seizures.

After a review that took more than a year-and-a-half, commission chair Ian McPhail and his investigators concluded the Mounties were mostly justified in forcing their way into flooded High River homes in search of stranded residents, and in seizing more than 600 unsecured guns set out of the rising water's way.

The report says Alberta's Emergency Measures Act designates the town as a legal authority, and High River's emergency operations committee had issued a legal evacuation order that instructed the RCMP to forcibly enter homes to look for stranded residents. The RCMP, under Canada's common law and criminal code, for the most part acted legally when they seized hundreds of unsecured guns "in plain view," says the report.

But McPhail came down hard on the force for failing to report the weapon seizures to a justice of the peace, a simple act that would have rendered the seizures entirely lawful, provided judicial oversight and accountability and may have calmed residents' — and the prime minister's — anger.



Wreckage lies along Center Street in High River on June 25, 2013. A report was released on the RCMP's handling of gun seizures during the ordeal. JORDAN VERLAGE/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

"Clear policy and supervisory direction could have alleviated public concerns about RCMP members acting arbitrarily," the report says.

McPhail himself said much of the blame lies at the feet of Alberta's "K" Division leadership, however his recommendations urge clearer policies, communications and training changes across the board.

The report accepts that the RCMP's early entries into homes were justified — to save people, look for pets, retrieve medications and inspect homes for unsafe conditions, such as broken gas lines or live electrical wires. Indeed, the report notes that between 28 and 38 stranded residents were rescued during a flood that killed three people.

However it concluded some entries into homes unaffected by the flood which caused "significant" damages were unreasonable. It also said secondary entries by Mounties who were later dispatched to pick up guns identified by the first responders required a warrant.

"In several cases the searches exceeded their authorized scope by expanding from a search for people or pets to a search for firearms or contraband," the report said. In one case, the Mounties seized marijuana, unsecured firearms and searched a safe containing \$10,000 for which they found a key and ammunition.

But the report said a lack of detailed records kept by the RCMP about the searches made it difficult to say whether it went beyond a few cases.

Residents' frustrations boiled over at the barricades several days after the evacuation when they learned the RCMP had forcibly entered and seized guns that people had hastily scooped out of their basements, and put up on mantelpieces, beds or closet shelves to keep out of the rising floodwaters.

McPhail said the RCMP internally had already decided it would not charge people for unsafe firearms storage and would return weapons once people proved ownership but because the procedures for the returns were not yet finalized, "operational commanders insisted on keeping some of the basic information out of the public domain."

McPhail told Torstar News Service the RCMP failed to realize that "when they went into something like this they were wearing two hats; they were wearing their responder's hat and of course, they're still wearing their police officer's hat. Except that the responder's hat is by far more significant one and it requires a different approach."

"As a police officer doing an investigation, you're trained to keep what you're doing confidential, but when it comes to working as a first responder you need to involve and inform the public. It's quite the opposite."

McPhail further criticized a decision by some RCMP members whose own homes were inside the evacuation zone not to evacuate.

"It undermines confi-

## Disaster relief protocol

In an interview about the report released Thursday, Ian McPhail told Torstar News Service he was surprised to learn the RCMP didn't have a game plan.

- **'Troubling.'** He said that when guns are seized a return must be made to a justice so that there's judicial oversight. That no one directed their mind to this reality was troubling to McPhail.
- **Communication.** He was also critical of the RCMP's communicative efforts, calling them disorganized, ad hoc, defensive and reactive. He said the public was further made uneasy by the poor communication, which fostered unnecessary uncertainty around their circumstances.

dence," said McPhail. "The (RCMP) members stayed in their homes because they were working shifts, it was easier to come home after a shift, have a bite to eat and go to bed but definitely created a sense of favouritism and that became recognized within a few days, and they were told to evacuate as well."

RCMP Comm. Bob Paulson has been briefed on the report's findings and recommendations, and is expected to respond publicly.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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## Ontario

## Twin girl and her dad recovering after transplant

An Ontario father and his three-year-old daughter were recovering in hospital on Wednesday after both underwent "successful" liver transplant surgeries.

Michael Wagner gave

part of his liver to Phuoc — one of his twin daughters, both of whom have Alagille syndrome, a genetic disorder that affects vital organs.

The family is still waiting for a liver donor for Phuoc's sister, Binh. The girls' story made headlines when the family said it couldn't decide who would receive the donation, so they left it to doctors to pick the best candidate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Politics

## Tory defector willing to prove herself: Trudeau

Tory defector Eve Adams' willingness to prove her mettle in a difficult Toronto riding was a key part of the decision to welcome her into the federal Liberal party, Justin Trudeau says.

Adams confirmed Wednesday she intends to seek the Liberal nomination in Eglinton-Lawrence, hoping to take on Finance Minister Joe Oliver in the election.

She now represents Mississauga-Brampton South but last year attempted to switch to the newly created Oakville North-Burlington riding and became embroiled in an ugly Conservative nomination fight. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Canadian Forces

## Air force head retiring as military brass get shake up

A number of changes are in the works for military brass, including the retirement of the head of the air force and the promotion of the first woman to run the personnel branch.

The country's top military commander, Gen. Tom Lawson, has announced a series of promotions and new postings, many of which take effect throughout the coming months. The biggest change is the departure of Lt-Gen. Ivan Blondin, a veteran fighter pilot who became head of the air force just over two years ago and was a champion of the F-35 program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Kenney hints at possibility of Ukraine mission

**Military.** New defence minister says Canada would be open to training Ukrainian forces

The country's new defence minister left the door open Wednesday for Canadian troops to join the U.S. in training Ukrainian forces and for an extension of the combat mission against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group.

Jason Kenney, speaking on CBC's Power and Politics, echoed Prime Minister Stephen Harper's comments in saying that "all options are on the table" when it comes to opposing Russian interference in eastern Ukraine but was more specific on the issue of training.

He said: "If there is consensus that we could play a role in terms of training, we would be open to doing so, but no decisions have been taken."

The commander of the U.S. Army Europe, Lt-Gen. Ben Hodges, said Wednesday a battalion of U.S. soldiers would train three battalions of Ukrainians from the Interior Ministry

at the Yavoriv training centre in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv.

The training won't begin until March, but Hodges said it will teach the Ukrainians how to better defend themselves against "Russian and rebel artillery and rockets."

The six-month combat mission against ISIL expires by late March, and Kenney, who was appointed this week to the portfolio, says the Conservative government hasn't made up its mind whether to extend it, ask Parliament for a different mandate — or even if an extension would be put before MPs.

Meanwhile in Washington, President Barack Obama has asked Congress for a limited mandate to wage war on ISIL, but it would not include "enduring offensive ground combat operations." The resolution would not limit military operations to Iraq and Syria or prohibit defensive ground operations. The language resembles what the Harper government has been saying to justify the actions of special-forces trainers, who have been guiding in airstrikes for Kurdish peshmerga fighters. THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Retrial set to begin for Canadian journalist

In this May 2014 file photo, Canadian-Egyptian Mohamed Fahmy, acting Al Jazeera bureau chief, talks to the judge during his trial on terror charges in Cairo, Egypt. Fahmy is bracing for a return to a cage in a Cairo courtroom where his retrial is set to begin on Thursday. A lawyer for the journalist, who has been in prison for more than a year on terror-related charges, is expected to ask that he be deported to Canada. Fahmy and two of his colleagues were arrested while working for Al Jazeera English in December 2013.

PHOTO: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/  
THE CANADIAN PRESS  
TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Health. 10 Quebec measles cases linked to California

Ten individuals in Quebec are confirmed to have been infected with measles in an event health officials are linking to a large outbreak in California.

And another case has been reported in the Toronto region, bringing to eight the number of cases discovered in the past few weeks in southern Ontario.

In a statement, the Lanaudiere health authority

said the first Quebec case contracted the virus during a visit to a park in California which has been the source of other recent infections. Though they do not name it, it would appear that it is Disneyland.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control says the Disneyland outbreak has involved 114 cases in seven U.S. states so far.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Politics. Overriding verdict is not an option: MacKay

Personal circumstances colour individual views on whether people should have a legal right to a doctor-assisted death, and that dilemma could swing voter loyalty during the next election, says the federal justice minister.

Peter MacKay has read several times the Supreme Court decision that quashes a criminal ban on doctor-assisted suicide.

He strengthened his opposition to one of three possibilities for responding to the decision, referring to the notwithstanding clause, which gives Parliament the power to override the decision. The other options are letting the law lapse entirely or crafting a replacement. The government will consult a range of groups, MacKay said.

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metronews.ca  
Thursday, February 12, 2015

WORLD

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# Obama asks for war powers to destroy ISIL

**White House.** Draft authorization sent to Congress does not call for deployment of ground forces

President Barack Obama declared Wednesday that the U.S.-led military coalition will succeed in destroying the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group, as he asked Congress for fresh war powers.

Speaking at the White House, Obama said the draft authorization he sent Congress earlier in the day does

not call for the deployment of ground forces. He said that would not be necessary to fight ISIL, although he left open the possibility he could deploy special forces in limited circumstances.

"It is not the authorization of another ground war like Afghanistan or Iraq," Obama said, seeking to differentiate military efforts under his watch from the unpopular wars the U.S. launched under his predecessor.

Obama said the mission against ISIL is difficult and will stay that way for some time — particularly as coalition forces seek to rout the

milicians from urban areas in Iraq and Syria. But Obama said the coalition was firmly on the offensive, vowing that "ISIL is going to lose."

"Our coalition is strong, our cause is just and our mission will succeed," Obama said.

The initial reaction to his authorization request in Congress was bipartisan skepticism. Republicans expressed unhappiness that Obama chose to exclude any long-term commitment of ground forces, while some Democrats voiced dismay that he had opened the door to deployment at all.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Yemeni Shiite rebels march as U.S., France and U.K. close embassies

The United States, Britain and France moved to close their embassies in Yemen on Wednesday, increasing the isolation of Shiite rebels who have seized power. In a show of bravado against the Americans, the rebels seized the cars of U.S. diplomats left at the airport on the way out.

At the same time, the rebels — known as the Houthis — attacked demonstrators holding protests against their power grab in various parts of the capital, Sanaa, witnesses said. The fighters

beat protesters and stabbed them with knives, arresting more than a dozen.

The increasing turmoil comes almost four years to the day since the start of Yemen's 2011 Arab Spring uprising that ousted the longtime autocratic ruler, but then opened a political transition that crumbled between the country's grinding forces of tribal politics, sectarian divisions, al-Qaida militancy and succession movements.

The crisis reached a new peak when the Houthis —

widely believed to have Iranian support — overran Sanaa late last year. They have since taken over larger parts of the country.

In January, the rebels put U.S.-backed President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi and all his cabinet ministers under house arrest, leading to their resignations. Subsequently, the Houthis, who are followers of the Shiite Zaydi sect in Sunni-majority Yemen, dissolved parliament and declared they were taking over the government.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Sandstorm sweeps over Cairo, Israel, Lebanon

A sandstorm shrouds Cairo, Egypt, on Wednesday morning. The storm also roared into Israel and Lebanon, causing the worst Israeli air pollution in years and sending powerful waves tearing into Beirut's famed corniche along the Mediterranean Sea. HASSAN AMMAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Costa Concordia

## Captain gets 16 years in prison

The captain of the shipwrecked Costa Concordia cruise ship was convicted Wednesday of multiple charges of manslaughter and sentenced to 16 years in jail, Italian court officials said.

Francesco Schettino was convicted of manslaughter in the deaths of 32 pas-

sengers and crew in the Jan. 13, 2012, capsizing as well as of causing a shipwreck and abandoning ship while many of the 4,200 passengers and crew were still on board.

The verdict and sentencing brought an end to a trial that has been running since July 2013. Prosecutors had insisted Schettino was a "reckless idiot" and asked the court to sentence him to 26 years and three months in prison. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Mediterranean

## Around 300 migrants missing

Some 300 migrants who tried to cross the frigid Mediterranean in open, rubber boats were reported missing Wednesday by survivors as the UN refugee agency and other aid groups sharply criticized the new EU rescue operation as insufficient and costing lives. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Stairwell shooting

## N.Y.C. officer pleads not guilty

A rookie New York City police officer pleaded not guilty Wednesday to manslaughter, official misconduct and other charges in the shooting death of an unarmed man in a darkened stairwell of a public-housing complex.

Officer Peter Liang appeared briefly in a Brooklyn courtroom packed with officers as the charges were unsealed. He also was charged with criminally negligent homicide and assault. He was released without bail.

The man killed in the stairwell, 28-year-old Akai Gurley, was black. Liang is Chinese-American.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Chris Kyle. Slain Navy SEAL suspected shooter was 'nuts'

Shortly before he was shot to death by a troubled former Marine at a Texas gun range, legendary Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle texted a buddy, "This dude is straight-up nuts," a defence attorney told jurors Wednesday.

A lawyer for Eddie Ray Routh said in opening statements of the man's murder trial that Routh's insanity was so evident that Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield exchanged texts expressing alarm as the three rode together in February 2013 to a Texas shooting range. "He's (sitting) right behind me, watch my six," Littlefield texted back, using a military reference for watching one's back.

But a prosecutor said that even with a history of mental



Taya Kyle, wife of slain Navy SEAL Chris Kyle. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

illness, Routh still knew right from wrong.

Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, testified that Littlefield and her husband were close and enjoyed spending time with veterans as a way to help them ease back into civilian life. She said her husband had been approached by Routh's mother to help her son.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## CALGARY-EAST PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION NOTICE OF NOMINATION MEETING

The Calgary - East PC Association is seeking nominations for individuals interested in becoming the candidate to represent the constituency and the Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta in the next election. The nomination period to obtain information, complete the nomination papers, and pay the nomination fee will commence on February 12th, 2015 and will close at noon on February 20th, 2015. The nomination meeting (if necessary) will be held from 10AM - 3PM on February 28th, 2015 at Albert Park Radisson Heights Community Hall ( 1310 28th Street SE). Voters shall be members in good standing of the PCAA, must ordinarily reside in Calgary-East, be a Canadian citizen, and be at least 14 years of age. When voting, members must show PCAA Membership card, and two (2) pieces of identification, at least one of which must be photo identification. The boundaries of Calgary-East are as labelled on [www.election.ab.ca](http://www.election.ab.ca). Interested parties may obtain further information, sets of nomination papers and details of the nomination process from the Nomination Chairperson, Anad Sara at [calgaryeastpcaa@gmail.com](mailto:calgaryeastpcaa@gmail.com)

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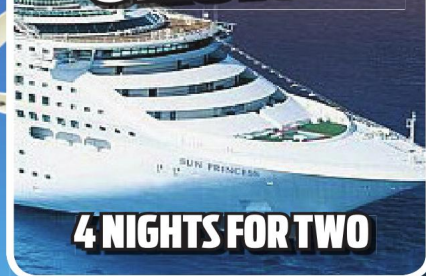


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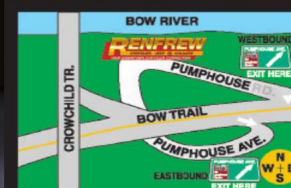
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# Boko Haram revels in Chibok kidnappings

**#BringBackOurGirls.** Girls who have escaped from the extremists describe conditions

When Islamic extremists snatched more than 270 girls from the Chibok boarding school in Nigeria in the dead of night, protests broke out worldwide. The U.S. pledged to help find them, and the #BringBackOurGirls hashtag was born.

Some 10 months later, most are still missing. The Boko Haram extremist group sees the mass kidnapping as a shining symbol of success and has abducted hundreds of other girls, boys and women. The militants brag to their new captives about the surrender of the Chibok girls, their conversion to Islam and their marriage to fighters.

"They told me the Chibok girls have a new life where they learn to fight," says Abigail John, 15, who was held by Boko Haram for more than four weeks before escaping. "They said we should be like

them and accept Islam."

The kidnappings reflect the growing ambition and brazenness of Boko Haram, which seeks to impose an Islamic state across Nigeria, Africa's most populous country. Some 10,000 people have died in the Islamic uprising over the past year, compared to 2,000 in the previous four years, according to the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations.

John was among three girls interviewed by The Associated Press who recently escaped from Boko Haram. While their stories could not be independently verified, they were strikingly similar, and all spoke of their captors' obsession with the Chibok girls.

The kidnappings of the Chibok girls in April brought Boko Haram to the world's attention in a way the group could not have imagined. The hashtag #BringBackOurGirls was tweeted more than 480,000 times globally in early May, and U.S. first lady Michelle Obama held it up in a sign to television cameras. She said at the time, "In these girls, Barack and I see our own daughters.... We can only im-



In this photo taken Jan. 31, 2015, Dorcas Aiden, 20, speaks to a journalist in Yola, Nigeria. Aiden was one of the 270 girls caught in Boko Haram's siege of the Chibok boarding school in April. LUKAN OYEKANMI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

agine the anguish their parents are feeling right now."

On Wednesday, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan again promised the girls will be brought home alive, saying he is "more hopeful" about their fate now that a multinational force is being formed to fight Boko Haram.

Dorcas Aiden, 20, was

another of those caught in Boko Haram's siege. She had finished high school and was living at home when the war came to her village. Fighters took her to a house in the town of Gulak and held her captive for two weeks last September.

The more than 50 teenage girls crammed into the house

were beaten if they refused to study Quranic verses or conduct daily Muslim prayers, she says. When the fighters got angry, they shot their guns in the air. Aiden finally gave in and denied her Christian faith to become Muslim, at least in name, she says.

One day, the fighters stormed into the room where

**Forced marriage**

**"I said, 'No, I will not marry you.' So he pulled out a gun and beat my hand."**

Dorcas Aiden, 20, one of the 270 girls abducted by Boko Haram last spring

she was kept locked up with a dozen other girls. They showed a video of the Chibok girls, dressed in hijabs, with only their faces visible through their veils. Aiden says she was so overwhelmed that she cried.

The fighters said the Chibok girls were all Muslims now, and some were training as fighters to fight women, which Boko Haram men are not supposed to do.

Aiden says the insurgents threatened to break the legs of any girl who tried to escape, but she and six others ran anyway. As she made her way through abandoned farm fields, she noticed that Boko Haram had filled about 10 other houses with kidnapped girls and women.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# U.S. Congress passes bill to build pipeline

**Keystone XL.** Vote was 11th attempt by Republicans to advance the controversial project

The Republican-controlled United States Congress approved a bill Wednesday to construct the privately funded Canadian Keystone XL oil-pipeline project, setting up a confrontation with President

Barack Obama, who has threatened to veto the measure.

The House voted 270-152 to send the bill to the president, endorsing changes made by the Senate that stated climate change was real and not a hoax and that oilsands should no longer be exempt from a tax used to clean up oil spills.

Only one Republican, Michigan Rep. Justin Amash, voted against the measure, while 29 Democrats backed

## Quoted

**"The president needs to work with Congress in a bipartisan way and approve the Keystone XL pipeline project."**

Sen. John Hoeven of North Dakota, the chief Republican sponsor of the bill in the U.S. Senate

it. But neither the House nor the Senate has enough votes to overcome a veto, the first

of many skirmishes between the Democratic White House and Congress on energy and environmental policy.

Supporters were already strategizing on how to secure the pipeline's approval using other legislative means.

Republicans and the oil industry have argued the \$8-billion US infrastructure project is about jobs and boosting energy security, by importing oil from a friendly neighbour and shipping it to domestic refineries.

Democrats and their environmental allies have characterized it as a gift to the oil industry that would worsen global warming and subject parts of the country to the risks of an oil spill, with little economic benefit because the oil and its refined product would be exported abroad.

The pipeline would connect Canada's oilsands with Gulf Coast refineries that specialize in processing heavy crudes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



U.S. Sen. John Hoeven is urging Barack Obama to approve the Keystone XL pipeline. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

## Walmart Canada. Retailer expands as U.S. rival pulls out

Walmart Canada says it plans to expand seven stores and open two new ones this fiscal year.

The retailer will also convert 20 of its stores into supercentres by adding a grocery section.

Walmart Canada estimates the cost at \$230 million, with an additional investment of \$75 million to expand its distribution network and \$35 million on e-commerce initiatives.

The news comes after U.S.-based retailer Target announced it is pulling out of Canada and will be shutting

down all 133 of its Canadian stores.

Target acquired the leases from retailer Zellers back in 2010 and has said it will work with an adviser to sell them.

The expansion will bring Walmart Canada's store count to 396 by the end of January 2016 — 309 supercentres and 87 discount stores.

"Our mission is to provide multiple access points for customers to save money," said Walmart Canada president and CEO Dirk Van den Bergh.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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## Market Minute



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**GOLD**  
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**Natural gas:** \$2.797 (+\$12.0¢)  
**Dow Jones:** 17,862.14 (-6.62)

## Alaska leaders upset over ban on oil drilling in Arctic Ocean

A plateau on the Arctic Ocean floor, where thousands of Pacific walrus gather to feed and raise pups, has received new protections from the Obama administration that recognize it as a biological hot spot and mark it off-limits to future oil drilling.

But the announcement triggered an uproar from Alaska leaders, angry that the federal government was making a decision that they said would harm the state's

economy.

"This administration has effectively declared war on Alaska," U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski said.

Hanna Shoal rises from the shallow Chukchi Sea and teems with plankton, clams and marine worms that attract walrus and bearded seals. The remote area lies off the state's northwest coast, beyond even sparsely populated whale-hunting towns such as Barrow, the

northernmost community in the U.S.

Federal estimates, however, show that the Chukchi and Beaufort seas could hold 26 billion barrels of recoverable oil, and many Alaska leaders are eager to begin drilling in the area to create jobs and fund state government projects and services.

About 90 per cent of Alaska state revenue comes from oil taxes or fees, and with the price drop of nearly

\$60 US per barrel since April, the state faces a \$3.5-billion budget deficit next year, and leaders in Alaska want to find new drilling opportunities as a way to offset those losses.

Adding Hanna Shoal to four other Arctic Ocean areas that won't be offered for future oil lease sales, came just two days after U.S. President Barack Obama declared he would seek wilderness protection for the Arctic Nation-

al Wildlife Refuge, including its coastal plain, which holds an estimated 10 billion barrels of oil.

The announcements change very little for current oil exploration. The newly removed section covers about 2,500 square miles. Meanwhile, more than 184,000 square miles of Arctic Ocean territory remain available for future oil leases and exploration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Target Canada

### Judge clears deal with landlords

An Ontario judge has given the green light to a compromise between Target Canada and its landlords over properties the retailer will soon leave vacant. The revised agreement gives Target Canada until the end of June to sell its store leases. If the leases aren't sold by then, the rights will be returned to the landlords.

Meanwhile, Target Corp. is laying off 720 employees across its global operations as it makes changes linked to its failed rollout in Canada.

The Minneapolis-based company said it has told 550 workers in Minnesota they will be losing their jobs — with about 350 of those cuts effective immediately. Another 170 staff members based at its technology centres in India will be "eliminated over time," the company added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Anti-corruption law

### New rules tough on Public Works

Recently toughened rules that block Canada from doing business with companies that commit crimes anywhere in the world have put the federal government's main buyer of goods and services in a bind.

The Public Works Department has 66 contracts worth around \$377 million with HP Canada — whose Russian sister company pleaded guilty in a U.S. court last September to bribing Russian government officials for a contract. HP Russia was fined more than \$58 million US. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## VOICES

## YOU ATTRACTED TO PIGS? NO? NEITHER IS YOUR CRUSH

The nose may indeed know when it comes to attracting a mate, but pheromone potions sold online are sourced from swine, not humans — and they definitely don't work



**STEPHANIE ORFORD**  
readers@metronews.ca

Something's in the air. No, not love. Is that ... pig pheromones?

There are hundreds of "human pheromone" products out there, all claiming that, with a spritz or two, the wearer will become irresistible to potential romantic partners.

If you're thinking of using these to find love this Valentine's Day — don't, cautioned the American Chemical Society on Monday.

The products are tantamount to snake oil. The pheromones they contain, though real, were actually isolated in pigs.

The idea that humans pheromones may attract sexual partners isn't necessarily

wrong. Species across the animal kingdom secrete these molecules to signal fertility to prospective mates, among other messages. There's just not enough known about pheromones in humans to make a love potion possible any time soon.

Guys, you're better off just throwing on a well-worn T-shirt.

Since the pioneering "sweaty T-shirt study" in the '90s, evidence has been mounting that women tend to be attracted to the natural smell of guys who are more likely to father healthy kids.

The research has focused on a group of genes that code for MHC (major histocompatibility complex) proteins. These play a major role in immune function. The more diverse a person's collection of MHC genes, the more robust their immune system tends to be.

But what do immune genes have to do

**And it wouldn't kill you to shower less, either**

**There's just not enough known about pheromones in humans to make a love potion possible any time soon. Guys, you're better off just throwing on a well-worn T-shirt.**

with sexual attractiveness?

Kids' immunity is maximized when they inherit different MHC genes from their fathers than from their mothers.

In other words, when a woman likes the way a man smells, it could mean they'd have healthy kids together.

No fancy pheromone cocktails needed for men or smell-detecting equipment or calculations needed for women. Just follow your nose, ladies.

The area of research is controversial, and results differ between populations and different gender identities and preferences.

Women who are taking hormonal contraceptives, which make the body mimic pregnancy, tend to have the opposite reaction to man-stink, preferring guys with immune genes that are more similar to their own.

Another study showed that gay men reacted to sexy man stink in the same way that women did.

Bottom line?

If you're searching for a partner this Valentine's Day, put down the fake pheromones and trust your judgment. But don't ignore what your nose tells you.

*Stephanie Orford is a writer based in Vancouver.*

## It's our flag-iversary, and I for one am proud



**MELISSA DUNNE**  
readers@metronews.ca

Quick, which symbol best encapsulates Canada: a double-double, a beaver, a moose, maple syrup, a Canada goose, a Canada Goose parka, Drake in a Canada Goose parka, ice hockey, the Toronto Maple Leafs or a red maple leaf on a fall day?

Which of these symbols you like and which you despise depends largely on when you were born and where you live. Not everyone is a fan of the Leafs, but many of us love the maple leaf.

From gas stations to hardware stores to beer companies, the maple leaf is ubiquitous.

This Sunday will mark 50 years since the red-and-white flag we now stand on guard for first officially flew above the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill.

Long before that, it was already central to Canadian culture.

Our unofficial national anthem, written by Alexander Muir in 1867, sung the praises of our "Maple Leaf, our emblem dear."

The tune also talks about God saving the Queen and Britannia's flag. Which was apropos, as until 1965 the Royal Union Flag was the only official national flag of Canada. It celebrated our past.

However, by the early '60s, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson knew it was time to look to the future. The possibility of having our very own national flag sparked what was dubbed The Great Flag Debate among politicians.

The people also got a say. Close to 6,000 designs were sent to Ottawa. Beavers made it on to many of the designs; not sure we'd want to be known worldwide for our passion for beavers.



Fans wave the Maple Leaf before Canada's men's hockey game against Team USA at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver. This Sunday will mark 50 years since the flag first officially flew on Parliament Hill.  
RYAN REMIOWZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada geese (yes, those aggressive birds who leave green poop everywhere) were suggested, too. One very cheeky entry featured the four Beatles, with a fleur-de-lis at the centre. Britain's Union Jack was a part of many designs.

Thankfully, our flag does not have another country's flag on it, beavers, geese or the Fab Four.

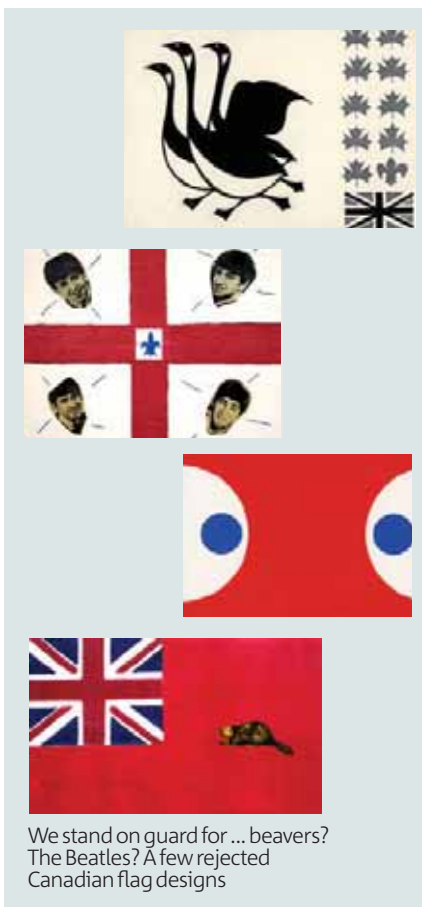
Yes, I was born in Dublin, so some will automatically discount my view. But I have

lived here most of my life, and as a dual Irish-Canadian citizen, I bleed red, white and maple, thank you very much.

IMHO, our flag with a maple leaf at its heart is truly the perfect symbol for the True North strong and free.

So raise up your cup of Timmies this weekend and cheers to the Maple Leaf Forever!

*Melissa Dunne is a freelance writer based in Toronto.*



We stand on guard for ... beavers?  
The Beatles? A few rejected Canadian flag designs

Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON  
THE WORLD OF  
CELEBRITIES

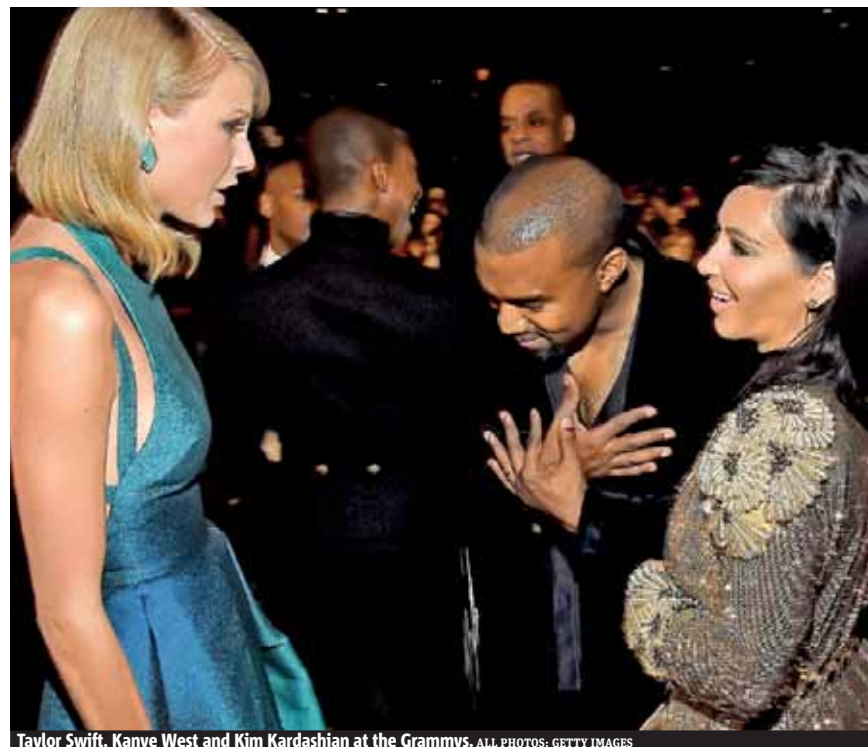


Redmayne  
researching  
trans role

Never accuse presumptive Oscar front-runner Eddie Redmayne of not being committed to his work as an actor. Case in point: The Theory of Everything star is reportedly deep into preparations for an upcoming film, *The Danish Girl*, about the first transgender woman to undergo reassignment surgery back in the '30s. And just how is he preparing? The British actor "is literally walking around in heels and wearing his wife's clothing," a source tells Radar Online.



Redmayne



Taylor Swift, Kanye West and Kim Kardashian at the Grammys. ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

From dis to duet? Kanye  
hints at Taylor Swift team up

Everyone's favourite level-headed cultural critic called into Ryan Seacrest's radio show yesterday to clear a few things up about the Grammys — and to hint at a super-powered pop team-up that may be in the works. Taylor Swift "wants to get in the studio and we're definitely going to do that," West teases. And he also says Swift is something of a trouble-maker when it comes to him interrupting Beck's acceptance speech: "Taylor Swift came up to me right afterwards, literally right afterwards, and tells me that I should have went on stage. This is the irony of my life," he says.

It wasn't just Swift, either.

"Right when that happened, everybody was looking at me, then people started (chanting my name)," he explains of his Grammys stage-rush. "OK, this didn't really happen, those were voices in my head." So, it's official. The voices made him do it. As for why he keeps rushing the stage on Beyoncé's behalf instead the singer herself? "I believe she didn't move and run to the stage because she's a respectful individual," he explains. "But because she's so successful, a lot of times success disables your ability to communicate exactly what the f— you want to say." So ... yeah. But he doesn't want people to think he was saying Beck

isn't a great artist. "When I said that thing about artistry, I think it came off the wrong way and that was a miswording on my part. Obviously, Beck is one of the most respected artists and respects artistry," he says. He's also not planning to attend the Grammys next year unless some major changes to the voting system "to be more in accord with the popular vote."

He also has some things to say about the fashion world and breaking down class barriers and punking rich folks and what he talks to Obama about.

Worth a listen.

Ansel opens  
up about  
love, again

If I were Ansel Elgort's high school girlfriend, I might want to sit him down and have a talk about how every little facet of our relationship doesn't need to be discussed with major monthly magazines. The Fault in Our Stars is voluntarily opening up again about his reignited romance with Violette Komyshan, this time to Details. "I knew something was missing, and I was like, 'Oh, that's love.'"

In related news, I think Elgort should stop doing interviews, because the sheen is wearing off his public image. What started a year or two ago as a refreshingly refined "aw shucks" antidote to the usual parade of bratty young stars is morphing into some sort of pretentious platitude-spouting jerk-face. Take quotes like this one — from the same interview — about his career goals: "I want to buy a house now, so I can have my place and not worry about money. Then I can do plays. Do Broadway, make whatever movie I want and not feel like, 'Well, I have to pay a mortgage and take this job and that job.' The minute you start thinking, 'I don't want to do that, but it'll make me money,' is when you start f—king yourself. I don't want money to ever drive my career. I want my career to be driven by what I want to do in art." Oh, Ansel.



Ansel Elgort

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By the end of the year, we're going to need a new Daily Show host, and it seems like the Internet is already rallying around Parks and Recreation star Amy Poehler. But that doesn't mean she's the only great option to take over for Jon Stewart. We've got some other ideas.

NED EHRBAR

With files from The Associated Press

### Amy Poehler

First off, why not Poehler? Her show is ending, so she could use a new regular gig. She's got the perfect comic persona for the venue, and getting behind the desk in New York would be a lovely return to her Saturday Night Live and Upright Citizens Brigade roots.



# 5

## Folks to fill Stewart's shoes

### Jessica Williams

How about helping one of the show's fastest rising stars rise even faster? Williams has been turning in some of the show's most important work since joining the team, and that could drive the future tenor of the show and help keep it relevant.



### Seth MacFarlane

He's a writer, performer and singer who can summon the juvenile glee, if not the artfulness, that Stewart employs to leaven the angst. And he could bring a sidekick — his devilish movie creation Ted the teddy bear.

### Chris Rock

Brilliantly funny, certainly fearless. He wrote an essay about being black in an entertainment industry that is "kind of racist" in its hiring practices — although he said he wasn't being political at all, adding, "that's Stewart, that's (Bill) Maher."



### Joel McHale

The Soup host already balances his Community sitcom role with a host gig, so why not step it up? He's quick-witted, lovable and has a following that encompasses the frat-boy demo that is undeniably part of the Daily Show fan base.



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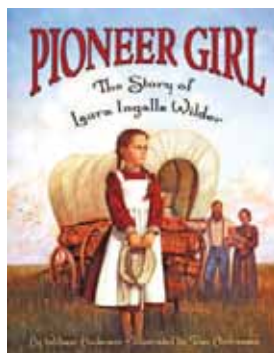
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# New Ingalls Wilder book shows reality of prairie life

**Sleeper hit.** Popular autobiography from Little House on the Prairie author reveals a hard and violent life



The autobiography of Little House on the Prairie author Laura Ingalls Wilder has become a surprise publishing hit in America, with buyers rushing to snap up the candid account of pioneer life.

First published in November by the tiny South Dakota Historical Society Press, *Pioneer Girl* depicts an unglossed view of the 19th-century Midwest, a marked departure from the bucolic imagery of the Little House series.

The book "is Laura Ingalls' very first draft before it was edited and romanticized," the press's director Nancy Tystad Koupal told AFP.

"We decided to keep this version, because it was as close to the original story of the 19th-

century pioneers. We wanted to show, in a sense, a behind-the-scenes of *The Little House*."

Wilder first wrote the book in 1930 and it has been annotated by Pamela Hill Smith, who researched all the places and dates Wilder mentioned.

In *Pioneer Life*, Wilder details 16 years of travels by her family through an array of Midwestern states including Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa.

Wilder's recollections formed the basis of the Little

House books that were published between 1932 and 1943.

Whereas the series of 11 volumes paints a fairly innocent picture of pioneer times, Wilder's autobiography bears witness to a less glossy reality.

"At the time, life was hard. Violence was typical. It was part of the pioneers' life," Koupal said. Koupal says the Ingalls family was in poor financial shape, with little cash and they didn't own a home. Instead, they lived in apartments that Laura's father couldn't always pay for.

"They had to flee in the middle of the night to avoid paying rent," Koupal said.

Wilder's books were adapted for television in 1974 by Michael Landon — who also starred on the show. It ran for nine seasons, comprising more than 200 episodes.

The book has soared up the Amazon bestseller list, and for a short while last week eclipsed even American Sniper for the top spot. Sales really took off after NPR and other U.S. media outlets drew attention to it. **AFP**

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# Get suited up in sexy, Grey style

**Style.** Costume designer Mark Bridges encourages all men to take on 50 shades of the sharpest dressers

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Who doesn't love a man in a stylish suit?

Fans of Jamie Dornan (cast as Christian Grey) hope to see him shirtless for most of *Fifty Shades Of Grey*, but his outfits also give away a great deal about his character.

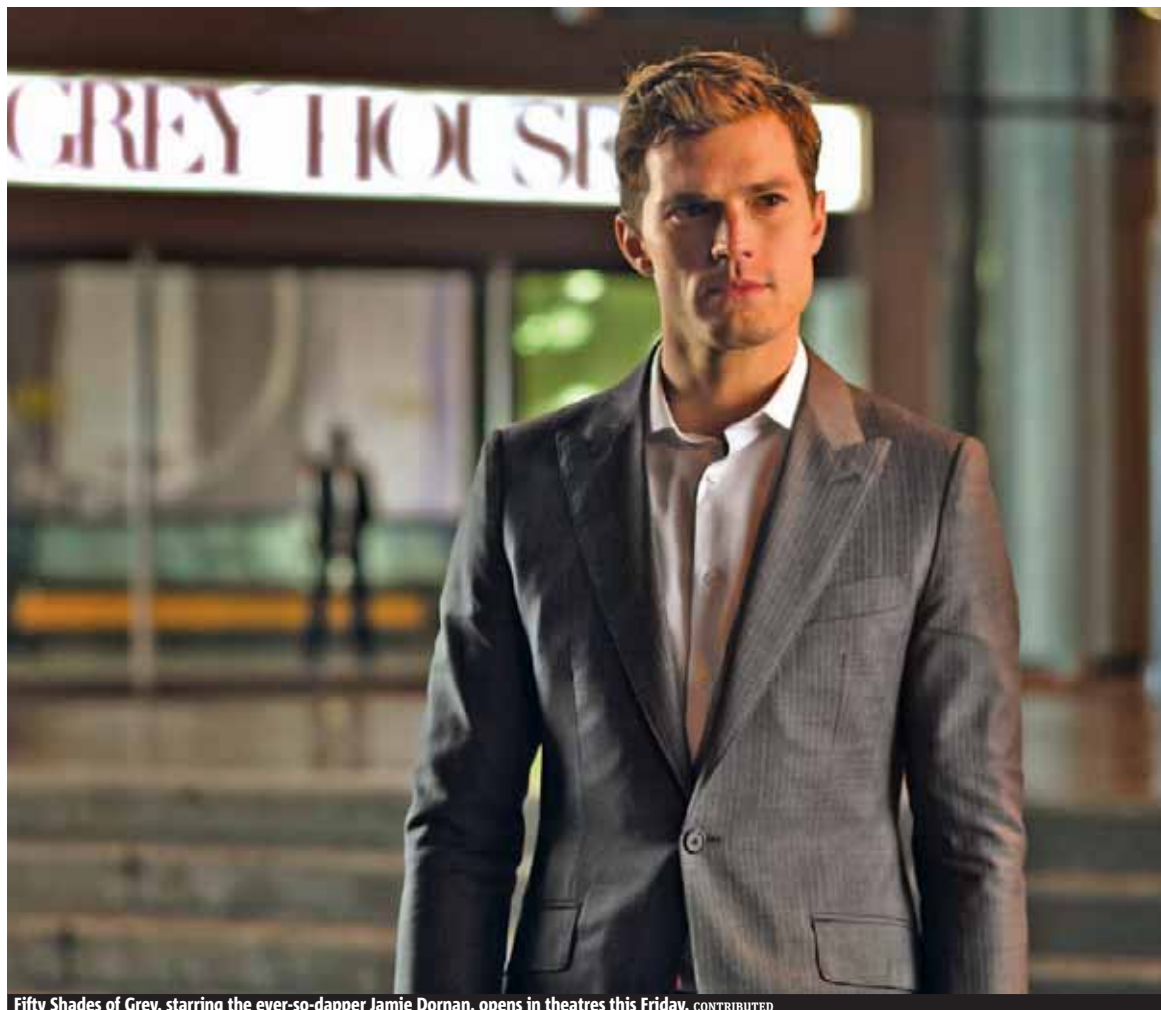
"He starts with a grey suit which gives him a protective formality and as he falls in love with Anastasia Steele, we see him soften and become a regular guy — granted he is in a Bottega Veneta windbreaker — but he becomes a little more down-to-earth. His wardrobe is echoing from the outside what is happening on the inside," explains the film's costume designer Mark Bridges.

The Oscar-winner continues: "His clothes reveal that he likes fine things and has the ability and the money to pay for them. Even his T-shirts are Swiss cotton. He has become accustomed to having the most comfortable and luxurious stuff."

To give the impression of timeless quality, Bridges chose one-button suits with a single breasted peak lapel.

"It's in the vernacular of suit making, but you don't see it very often — it's usually reserved for private tailoring. There are two signals from the earlier days of menswear, so I tried to revive some classic details, while still having very natural shoulders, slim sleeves and contemporary pants," he says.

Bridges, who is nominated at this year's Academy Awards for Best Costume Design for his work on



*Fifty Shades of Grey*, starring the ever-so-dapper Jamie Dornan, opens in theatres this Friday. CONTRIBUTED

## Focus on the fit

Grey might go for Charvet neckties, a Dolce & Gabbana leather jacket, Ralph Lauren boots and Malo cashmere, but Bridges points out that the key element to Grey's style has nothing to do with famous brands.

"I've had a lot of women come up to me asking, 'How can I make my boyfriend look like Christian Grey?' and I was like 'Hmm ... get him a tailor,'" he chuckles.

Inherent Vice, reveals he had some famous people in mind to help him create Christian Grey's style.

"I looked at some sports figures ... young stylish men

like David Beckham and David Gandy who show up on best-dressed lists. These guys have access to all the best clothes and always look like a million bucks. But

## Quoted

**"I've been impressed lately at some functions I have been to in Hollywood where young men, who aren't stars, make their best effort to look really good."**

Mark Bridges  
Costume designer for *Fifty Shades of Grey*

they still look masculine and effortless; it's never foppish or overdone — they just know how to rock it."

The racy book trilogy

reportedly had an impact on sex-toy sales, but Bridges hopes Grey's sense of style could also have consequences on men's wardrobes.

"I think there is this burgeoning attention to tailoring at the moment. I've been impressed lately at some functions I have been to in Hollywood where young men, who aren't stars, make their best effort to look really good.

"And maybe Christian Grey will push that further and encourage people to look even more immaculate and a little less frumpy."

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# Love the space you're in

Sure, you could spend this Valentine's Day communing with a value pack of cinnamon hearts and a four-layer box of ganache-filled truffles. Or you could treat yourself to something that will make your home cosier, brighter, and all-around more lovable. That kind of indulgence is sure to last long after the candy is gone and fickle Cupid has flown the coop.



## The food of love

From chocolate bread pudding to lobster mac and cheese, indulge on the day of love. Le Creuset's 2-quart Heart Casserole cherry pan, \$225, LeCreuset.ca

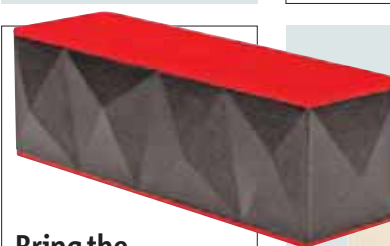


## Two of hearts

Two separate candlesticks that look like a chandelier when connected — do you see the heart? Kjell Engman for Orrefors Kosta Boda Connect Candlestick Pair, \$165, TheBay.com

## Red letter

The step stool has been a staple of studies and libraries for the last half-century. Use this one for climbing high to hide those love letters. Milio Step Stool, \$70, DWR.com



## Bring the Barry White

From the bubble bath to the bedroom; move those romantic tunes around with you. i.Sound Pyramid Speaker Rechargeable Bluetooth Speaker, \$80, Sears.ca



## Pillow talk

Get to the point with that special someone. Expressions Pillow, \$59, Chapters.Indigo.ca

## Slow coffee for lazy mornings

Serve your morning coffee long, slow and dark; one cup at a time. Wood Pour-Over Stand and #4 Cone Set, \$46, Starbucks.ca



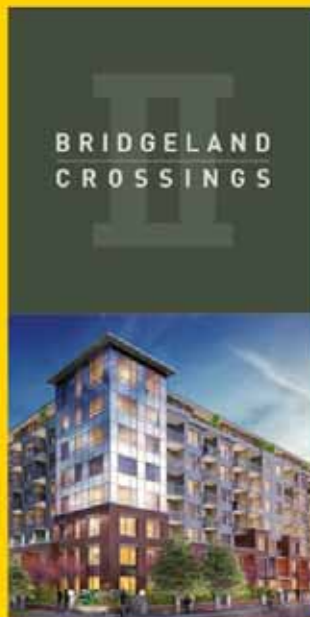
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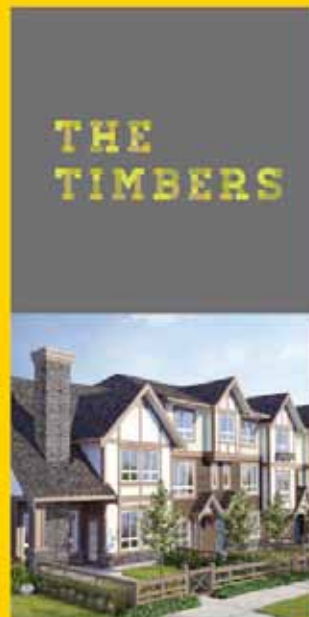
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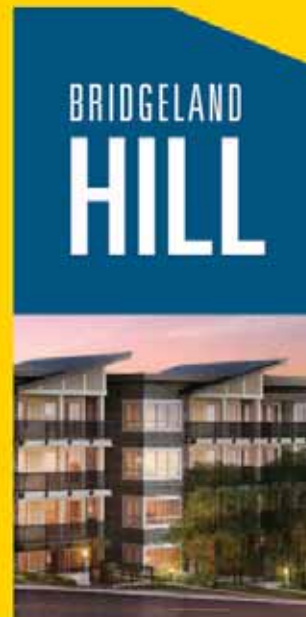
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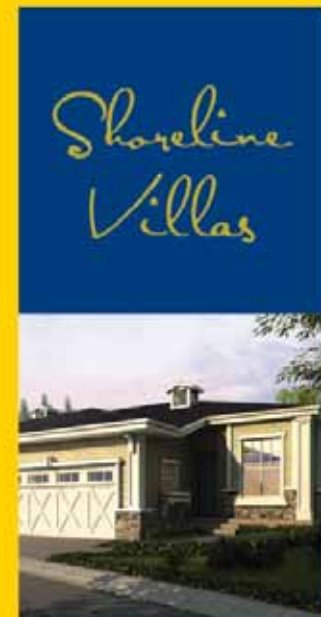
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metro

# VALENTINE'S DAY

Thursday, February 12, 2015



Get outdoors with your partner this Valentine's Day. Something as simple as skating, hiking, or a picnic can be an inexpensive bonding experience. SHUTTERSTOCK

## Spending time with your love

**Kick things up.** It falls on a Saturday, so why not plan something adventurous?

TANYA ENBERG  
For Metro

For some, Valentine's Day is a magical time of romance. For others, it is fraught with stress, sending them into high-pressure panic mode.

If you're feeling more fizzle than sizzle, get back on track with these fun ideas for Feb. 14.

With Valentine's Day falling on a Saturday this year, there is opportunity for greater flexibility — and the chance to finally kick the rushed dinner-reservation rut to the curb.

"Go to a live concert, a symphony orchestra, go ice skating and have hot chocolate after," Toronto-based relationship expert Kimberly Moffit said.

"Try doing a little road trip together and check out a diner and the local shops — stuff that is memorable."

For something free or inexpensive, head outside and make snow angels, take a walk under the stars or choose a new recipe and make a home-cooked meal together.

"With a lot of couples, we're at home sitting on the couch every day," Moffit said. "Valentine's Day is a chance to change the mundane."

Looking to deepen your connection? Start by getting the heart racing.

"If it's outside of your regular routine — something risky and adrenaline driven — it helps couples bond," Moffit said. "Especially if it's something novel, it's something that really stands out."

More than just thrills, these moments can boost communication.

"New experiences also offer a fresh opportunity to talk about things," Moffit said. "It brings new life in."

### V-Day share

Memorable celebrations shared by readers:

• **Blindsided.** "We got engaged. My husband and I discussed how cheesy it would actually be to propose marriage on Valentine's Day — he totally blindsided me. I gave him a crepe pan in exchange." — Geneva Hewetson

• **Two surprises.** "We were having our first breakfast in our new kitchen and I was presented with my Valentine's Day present — some heart-shaped cookware, which was dubious, as I couldn't really cook at the time — and a marriage proposal! I was surprised, but not as surprised as I was a few weeks later when I found out we conceived our first child that Valentine's Day, too!" — Judy Jenkinson



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# Give from the heart

YVLA  
VAN BUUREN  
For Metro

Celebrate Valentine's Day with the one you love! These gift ideas are sure to please.

## Pretty in pink

For a sparkling way to keep in touch, carry a Smart-phone Slake Deluxe Rose Gold Phonecase from Swarovski, \$105. Available at Swarovski stores across Canada as well as online at swarovski.com.

## Lingerie

Baby doll nightie with pink satin cup from Ti Voglio



looks and feels beautiful, \$60. Available at Penningtons stores across Canada and penningtons.com.

## Arm candy

Who wouldn't fall in love with this glittering Joseph Nogucci pink-heart charm bracelet, \$23.60. Available at stores. ebay.ca/josephnogucci.

## How much do you love me?

Cupid heart measuring spoons have a whimsical feathered bow-and-arrow design on the handles and heart shaped spoons. Stainless steel and dishwasher safe, \$18.80. Available at eBay.ca

## Romancing the stone

Store precious jewelry in this tiny Tory Burch Kerrington jewelry case at home – or while on the road, \$95. Available at Tory Burch stores or toryburch.com.

## Picture us

Take a picture of the two of you and this 4-inch-by-4-inch Eccolo enamel heart picture frame will be perfect, \$22.99. Available at Bed, Bath & Beyond stores across Canada or bedbathandbeyond.ca.

## Let's stay home

Relax into this natural cotton pillow, \$49.50. Available at indigo.ca.

## Undercover love

Men's Valentine's Day boxers are \$10 each. Available at Old Navy and oldnavy.ca.

## Selfie lover?

All-in-one selfie tool



with built-in remote shutter on extendable wand, \$29.88. Available at Walmart stores across Canada and walmart.ca.

## Arousing thoughts

Trojan Arouses & Releases lubricant, \$19.99. Available at mass drug and grocery retailers across Canada and trojanlubricants.ca.

## Time stands still

### (two products)

Unlock Your Heart Swatch Watch limited edition for women, \$75; black and white map of the stars 'Sistem 51' watch for men, \$165. Available at Swatch Stores across Canada and swatch.com.

## Tastes so sweet

It's hard to resist heart-shaped hand-decorated sugar cookies. Eat My Words

gift boxed cookies, \$29. Proceeds donated to the Stephen Lewis Foundation. eatmywords.org.

## Cinnamon kisses and more

'Gimme Some' Valentine candy from Confetti. Three-box set includes cinnamon kisses, happy-ever-after gummie hearts, and love bites candy, \$16.95. Available at theconfettico.com.

## Bathing beauty

### (three products)

Wrap up Cupid's Love Soap, Heart Throb Bubblebath and the Floating Flower Bath Bomb for your Valentine. Lush vegan bath products, \$6.95 to \$8.95 each. Available at LUSH stores across Canada and lush.ca until Valentine's Day.



Clockwise, from bottom left: Let's Stay Home pillow, \$49.50; Men's Valentine's Day boxers, \$10; Smartphone Slake deluxe Rose Gold Phonecase, \$105; Selfie wand, \$29.88; Trojan Arouses & Releases lubricant, \$19.99; Baby doll nightie, \$60.



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Just dating? Relax and have fun with champagne or flowers.



In a long-term relationship? You should know them well enough to pick out a book you know they'll enjoy.



Been together 40 years? Make the gift personal, like a gift of memories or a trip to an old haunt. SHUTTERSTOCK IMAGES

# Navigate the romantic waters of gift giving

**Presents for your partner.** Gifts can reflect many stages of your relationship

**TANYA ENBERG**  
For Metro

Whether you're fresh lovebirds or have been together for years, make sure you send the right

message this Feb. 14.

## Just met

Giving lavish gifts to a new crush can suggest you're in love before you actually are.

"You might only know a few things about each other but if you picked up that they are a Neil Young fan or watched the Muppets religiously as a child and find something related, huge points," said Kelly Flannigan Bos, a relationship expert.

## Daters

You're Facebook-official, but don't have a long-term relationship strategy mapped out yet. Relax and have fun! Book couples massages, pop a nice bottle of bubbly or frame a cutesy photo of the two of you.

## Newlyweds

Whether your beloved is a budding cook, amateur sommelier, avid reader or adventure junkie, there's a gift for that. Book a

cooking class or flying lessons, stock a Kobo with books they'll love, but whatever you do, don't let affections fizzle the rest of the year, said Flannigan Bos.

"Love should be shown all-year round, and you now have other dates of celebration," she said.

"I think it becomes disappointing if it is the only time all year to check the commitment or be acknowledged."

## Long-term

You've exchanged many Valentine's Day gifts so far, so how do you keep the sentimentality of the day fresh? A thoughtful note or card will make the romantic sparks fly, as will pampering or a carefully curated gift. "I encourage couples to keep a running list of gift ideas throughout the year to prepare for all occasions," Flannigan Bos said. It's helpful to note the retail websites they peruse and store-

fronts they browse. "It saves the last-minute uninspired dash."

## 40, or more, years together

Celebrate by getting personal. "A fun trip down memory lane: a book of favourite memories, a trip to an old haunt, or have an early picture redone in a new way," said Flannigan Bos. "So many sites have options to make your early wedding picture a blanket, key chain, collage or magnet."

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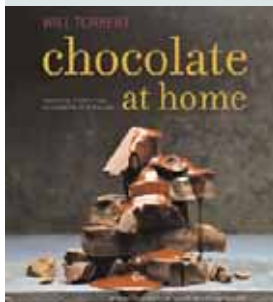
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## Cookbook of the Week

### Chocolatiers unite



Will Torrent takes the fear out making your own chocolate in *Chocolate at Home*. The book, while covering the history of chocolate, also explains techniques for producing drool-worthy creations.

Among specific recipes are: Classic Champagne Truffles, Maple and Pecan Brownies, Chocolate Waffles with Maple Syrup and Steamed Chocolate Pudding and Custard. **METRO**

**Dessert.** Strawberries and basil make this white chocolate version even more unique

"This baked cheesecake is made with white chocolate and cream cheese for a lovely open yet creamy texture," writes Will Torrent in *Chocolate at Home*.

1. Crush the biscotti in a freezer bag using a rolling pin and tip into a large mixing bowl.

2. Pour the melted butter into the crumbs and stir to combine. Tip the mixture into the prepared pan and press into an even layer with the back of a metal spoon to form a base.

3. Bake on the middle shelf of the preheated oven for 5 minutes. Remove and set aside to cool. Do not turn the oven off.

4. Melt chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a saucepan or pot of barely simmering water. Stir until smooth and glossy and remove from the heat.

5. Put the cream cheese, eggs,

## Ingredients

- 175 g (6 oz) plain biscotti
- 75 g (5 tbsp) unsalted butter, melted
- 175 g (1 1/3 cups) white chocolate, chopped
- 600 g (3 cups) full-fat cream cheese
- 3 large eggs
- 300 ml (1 1/4 cups) soured cream
- 175 g (3/4 cup) caster or granulated sugar
- 1 tbsp cornflour or cornstarch
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- freshly squeezed juice and grated zest of 1 lemon

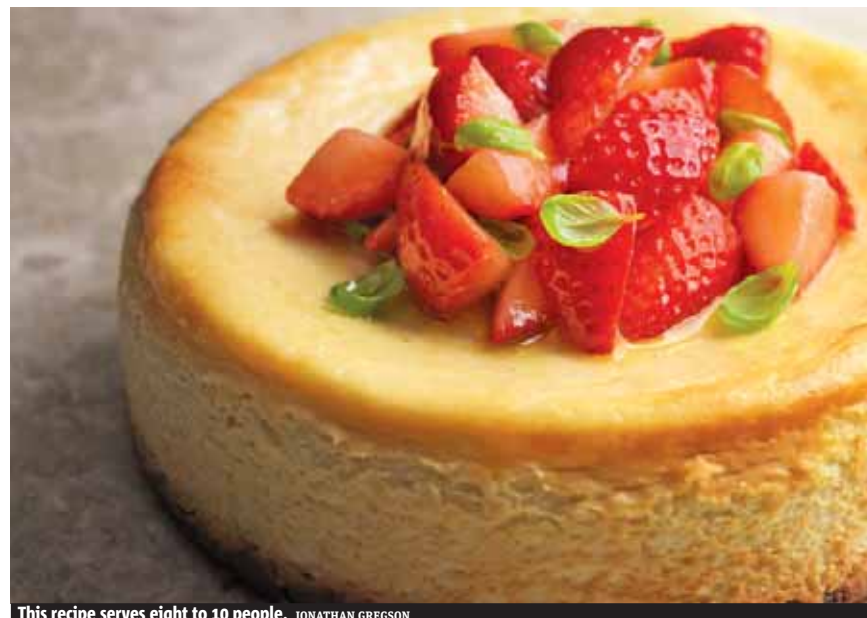
## To serve

- 250 g (2 1/2 cups) strawberries, hulled and quartered
- 1 small bunch baby basil
- 4–5 tbsp fruity extra virgin olive oil

## Equipment

- a 20-cm/8-inch round spring form cake pan, greased and lined with baking parchment

soured cream, sugar and cornflour/cornstarch into a food processor and whizz until smooth. Scrape down the sides of the bowl with a rubber spatula, then add the vanilla, lemon



This recipe serves eight to 10 people. JONATHAN GREGSON

juice and zest and whizz again.

6. Carefully pour mixture into the pan on top of the baked biscotti base. Place on a baking sheet and bake on the middle shelf of the still-warm oven for 40 minutes, or until just set.

7. Remove the cheesecake from the oven and let it cool completely before chilling in the fridge.

8. To serve, mix the hulled and quartered strawberries together with the baby

basil leaves and extra virgin olive oil. Heap the drowned strawberries on top of the chilled cheesecake and serve in slices. **RECIPE FROM CHOCOLATE AT HOME BY WILL TORRENT RYLAND PETERS AND SMALL, \$35.95 CA; RYLANDPETERS.COM**

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# Sharing is not caring

**Common courtesy.** You don't have to be kept captive by cold viruses in professional settings

HELEN  
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For Metro

You know better than to go to work sniffing, hacking and sneezing up a storm.

However, it can be frustrating when your co-workers don't extend the same courtesy. Equally annoying is visiting a shop or bank where the person you are interacting with is contagiously sick.

But you don't have to be held captive by their bugs and viruses in professional settings. Here is how you can take action and still be courteous.

"If a co-worker isn't covering their mouth, turning away, or dry-coughing into

their sleeve, it's perfectly acceptable to suggest they do," said Linda Allan, a Toronto business etiquette consultant.

Keep a box of tissue nearby, she said, and don't be shy about extending the box to someone in need. If an ill colleague borrows your pen or stapler, "It's best not to make a comment," Allan said. "Just use sanitizer to clean the object as soon as they've left your office. Or give them the pen."

Not only can you speak up at work, you can broach the topic with sick people you encounter when going about personal business. This really-happened anecdote was posed to Allan. What happens if you are at the bank, the tell-



If a co-worker isn't covering their mouth, turning away, or dry-coughing into their sleeve, it's perfectly acceptable to suggest they do. SHUTTERSTOCK

er coughs all over your cash and hands it to you? There isn't much you can graciously do about the cash itself other than take it and clean your hands after. However, you

can say to the teller, politely but on-point, that they seem far too ill to be dealing with the public.

"Nowadays, most of us are very aware that those serving

the public should take every precaution to handle things safely and, if they don't, it's perfectly acceptable to nicely tell them," she said.

And while it's tempting to

be angry at those who come to work sick, try not to be judgmental.

"Not everyone is in a position to stay home when they're not well," Allan said.



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PHC-13942

# Most toxic deal? It's Matt Stajan's



**THE HOCKEY NEWS**  
Brian Costello  
calgary@metronews.ca

For a couple years now we've been hearing Calgary's greatest bargaining chip in a trade is its ability to take on a toxic contract because of its available cap space. There hasn't been a cap-strapped NHL team desperate enough to execute a deal with the Flames, but maybe in the next few weeks.

But do the Flames really have toxic contracts, or are some just not palatable?

Let's take a look.

Up until recently, I would have said David Jones for one more year at \$4 million and Mason Raymond for two more years at \$3.15 million were unpalatable. But both players are now chipping in offensively to the second or third lines.

Fourth-liner Brandon Bollig has two more years at \$1.25 million. Maybe his old team in Chicago might want him back for a fifth- or sixth-round draft pick. I'd rather see his tough-guy role go to someone like David Wolf, who might have a higher upside.

Blue-liners with two more years apiece remaining are Dennis Wideman (\$5.25 million), Ladislav Smid (\$3.5 million) and Deryk Engelland (\$2.92 million). Wideman is overpaid, but plays a top-four role. Smid and Engelland are borderline NHLers who won't be traded unless the Flames retain some of what they're owed or take on an equally



Matt Stajan "will be an expensive 12th or 13th forward for the next three-plus seasons." MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

bad contract. At least a one-year buyout 16 months from now wouldn't be onerous.

Calgary's most toxic deal is Matt Stajan's. He's owed \$3.13 million for the next three seasons. It was a horrible deal the day Brian Burke offered it. If Stajan was anything more than a fourth-liner in the second, third and fourth years of the deal, it meant

all of Markus Granlund, Bill Arnold, Corbin Knight (since traded for Drew Shore), Max Reinhart — not to mention Josh Jooris or any centre draft picks like Sam Bennett — weren't progressing. Sure, Stajan provides a veteran leadership presence, but he will be an expensive 12th or 13th forward for the next three-plus seasons.

## Analytics stats study

Top team shooting percentages:

- Tampa Bay: 9.27 per cent
- Dallas: 8.88 per cent
- Calgary: 8.82 per cent

## Jets shuffle Kane off to Buffalo

Jets general manager Kevin Cheveldayoff pulled off a blockbuster trade Wednesday in a bid to get his team to the playoffs for the first time since they moved to Winnipeg.

Controversial Jets forward Evander Kane is gone in the deal with the Sabres that also sent defenceman Zach Bogosian and goaltending prospect Jason Kasdorf to Buffalo for former NHL rookie of the year defenceman Tyler Myers, veteran winger Drew Stafford, prospects Joel Armia and Brendan Lemieux and a 2015 first-

round pick.

"I think (Cheveldayoff) sends a message he believes in our group," Jets captain Andrew Ladd said. "I know he's pretty happy with how things have played out this year and then the work that we've put in, so as a player it's exciting to have a couple guys come here to try to help us win some games."

The Jets haven't been in the playoffs since the former Atlanta Thrashers franchise relocated to Winnipeg before the 2011-12 season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Evander Kane is the big name in a blockbuster deal. JEFF GROSS/GETTY IMAGES

## CFL

### Stamps ink deals with Harrison, Boudreaux

The Calgary Stampeders re-signed offensive lineman Edwin Harrison and added free-agent defensive lineman Brandon Boudreaux on Wednesday.

The moves come a day after offensive lineman Stanley Bryant left Calgary to sign as a free agent with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Harrison is entering his sixth season with Calgary. He has appeared in 45 regular-season games, making starts at both tackle and guard positions.

Harrison, who played collegiately at the University of Colorado, joined the Stampeders in 2010 after spending time on the practice roster of the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs.

Boudreaux has appeared in 34 career games over three CFL seasons with Hamilton and Saskatchewan. The 25-year-old American has 75 career tackles, 12 sacks, one interception and three forced fumbles. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## College basketball

### Hall-of-Famer coach Tarkanian dead at 84

Hall of Fame coach Jerry Tarkanian, who built a basketball dynasty at UNLV but was defined more by his decades-long battle with the NCAA, died Wednesday after several years of health issues. He was 84.

He couldn't stop fighting the NCAA any more than he could give up chewing towels courtside.

Jerry Tarkanian built a basketball dynasty in the desert, but it was his decades-long battle with the NCAA that defined him far more than his record.

Tarkanian put the run in the Runnin' Rebels, taking them to four Final Fours and the 1990 national championship.

He ended up collecting a \$2.5-million settlement after suing the NCAA for trying to run him out of college basketball.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jerry Tarkanian  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan goes to the rim against Wizards centre Kevin Seraphin on Wednesday night in Toronto. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# Raps give Wiz the business

**NBA.** DeRozan ensures Toronto gets to all-star break on three-game winning streak

DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points, including a long jump shot with 13 seconds left, to lift the Toronto Raptors 95-93 over the Washington Wizards on

Wednesday in the final game before the all-star break.

Lou Williams topped Toronto (36-17) with 27 points, while Kyle Lowry, who will start for the Eastern Conference in the all-star game, added 13 points, and Greivis Vasquez finished with 11.

John Wall, who will play alongside Lowry on the East squad, led the Wizards (33-21) with 21 points.

On Wednesday

95

Raptors

93

Wizards

Coaches are always concerned about the final game

before the break, but Wednesday's certainly didn't lack for effort or intensity in a battle between two of the East's best.

Toronto is 3-0 this season against the Wizards, the team that is hot on the second-place Raptors' heels in the Eastern Conference.

The Raptors go into the unofficial halfway point boasting a franchise-record 36 wins.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

## Stars' Benn says sorry to Sedins

Stars forward Jamie Benn has apologized to twins Henrik Sedin and Daniel Sedin of Vancouver for making an inappropriate remark during a radio interview. After a radio host suggested the Sedin twins were roommates on road trips, Benn said, "Who knows what else they do together?"

Dallas president Jim Lites said in a statement Wednesday that Benn reached out to the twins to apologize. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Copa del Rey

## Messi ever the difference maker for Barcelona

Lionel Messi scored one goal and set up another to help Barcelona beat Villarreal 3-1 on Wednesday in the first leg of their Copa del Rey semifinal.

Messi netted from Luis Suarez's pass after the Uruguay striker had won the ball back in the 41st minute at Camp Nou Stadium in Barcelona.

The second leg will be on March 4.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Willian scores in Chelsea's 1-0 win over Everton, preserving the Blues' seven-point lead atop the Premier League on Wednesday in London. IAN KINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

## Premier League. Chelsea keeps distance atop table

Premier League leader Chelsea left it late to beat Everton 1-0 on Wednesday and maintain its seven-point advantage over Manchester City as the champions won 4-1 at Stoke.

Willian's 89th-minute winner for Chelsea came a minute after a foul on the midfielder led to Everton midfielder Gareth Barry being sent off for a second bookable offence.

The victory dashed City's hopes of closing the gap on Chelsea on a night when Sergio Aguero scored twice to end the second-place team's four-game winless run.

"We are not thinking about Chelsea," City manager Manuel Pellegrini said. "If they

lose points it is good for us but the first thing for our team is to recover the sensation of (being) a good, solid team. That was the target and we did it."

Manchester United remained five points behind neighbour City but rose to third with an unconvincing 3-1 victory over Burnley.

Southampton dropped to fourth after being held 0-0 by 10-man West Ham, while Crystal Palace drew 1-1 with manager Alan Pardew's former club Newcastle. West Bromwich Albion climbed four points clear of the relegation zone by beating Swansea 2-0.

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## Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

### ♈ Aries

**March 21 - April 20**

You won't take life too seriously today and that's good because there are far too many glum faces around as it is. If it makes you smile it must be right.

### ♉ Taurus

**April 21 - May 21**

Don't be discouraged if today's events throw your plans into disarray. Most people around you will be dealing with chaos over the next 24 hours so at least you won't be alone.

### ♊ Gemini

**May 22 - June 21**

You are in one of those moods when whatever other people say you feel you have to take an opposing viewpoint. Are you being contrary for the fun of it?

### ♋ Cancer

**June 22 - July 23**

If a friend or co-worker tries to take liberties with your kindly nature today let them know it isn't going to happen. That applies especially to your career.

### ♌ Leo

**July 24 - Aug. 23**

You will demand to be the centre of attention today and if those you live and work with know what is good for them they will help you up on to the stage and let you get on with it.

### ♍ Virgo

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**

The more you think you may be able to get away with something underhand today, the more likely it is you will make a serious mistake. This is not a good time to take risks.

### ♎ Libra

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**

Can you trust what someone tells you? According to the planets the only way to find out for sure is by doing what they say and seeing what happens.

### ♏ Scorpio

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**

Something unusual will occur today but it won't do you any harm so long as you don't overreact. It could be the case that someone is deliberately trying to annoy you.

### ♐ Sagittarius

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**

Pace yourself and don't force yourself to do things because other people expect you to. If you don't have the energy to do a certain task don't do it.

### ♑ Capricorn

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**

Pace yourself and don't force yourself to do things because other people expect you to. If you don't have the energy to do a certain task don't do it.

### ♒ Aquarius

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**

This is a good time for all forms of communication, and whether you pick up a pen or pick up a phone others will be delighted to hear from you.

### ♓ Pisces

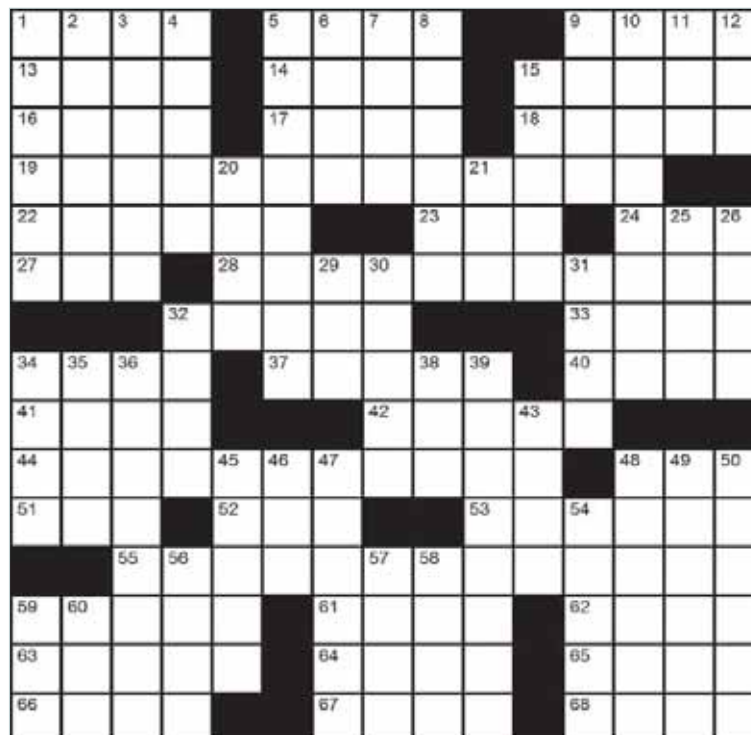
**Feb. 20 - March 20**

No matter how many things you may have on the go at work, take care of the needs of loved ones first. You may be intensely ambitious but if your home life isn't happy it's unlikely you will be at your best.

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

### Across

1. Terrorist's arms, commonly
5. 'Bugs' of winter
9. Part of a triathlon has to be what?
13. Total
14. Tardy
15. Prosperity periods
16. Sphere
17. Dry
18. Edgar \_\_ Poe
19. Learn The Second City craft, take these: 2 wds.
22. Mississippi city where Elvis Presley was born
23. Young fox
24. Verdi aria: " \_\_ Tu"
27. Charlemagne's li'l domain
28. Times for Randy Bachman to shine: 2 wds.
32. Canadian news anchor Ms. Len
33. 'Wine'-meaning prefix
34. Napoleon's exile isle
37. Gardening purchases
40. Mr. Seacrest
41. Attack, lion-style
42. WWII threat
44. Quebec's version of MuchMusic
48. Business books balancers, briefly
51. Dates to follow BCs
52. Model/actress Carol



53. Face
55. A laser is used for it in a dermatologist's office: 2 wds.
59. Perfumery property
61. " \_\_ doubt..."
62. Prescriptions, commonly
63. Doodler's need

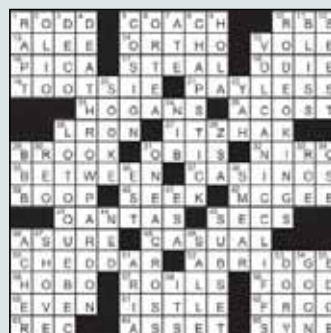
64. Ms. Taylor of "The Haunting" (1999)
65. Tamil \_\_ (State in southern India)
66. Dick Tracy's beloved
67. Broadway star Linda
68. "Let's call \_\_ evening."

### Down

1. Ghost
2. Soft-toned complaint
3. Coastal town of France on the English Channel
4. Kind of drum
5. Food tastes
6. Tir a \_\_ (Archery, in French)
7. Gas or elec., e.g.
8. "You're my little Valentine..." song-bit-singer Neil
9. Shoe spot
10. Winnipeg neighbourhood dubbed "The Granola Belt"
11. Ms. Thurman

12. Butterfly logo co.
15. Rope fibres
20. Actress Ms. Kurylenko
21. "My dear fellow."
25. Canadian hardware store
26. "This girl fire..." - Alicia Keys
29. Fire and \_\_ (Robert Frost poem)
30. Traffic standstill
31. Dutch astronomer, Jan \_\_ (b.1900 - d.1992)
32. Country of Africa
34. Ex-Spice Girl Ms. Bunton
35. Honour
36. Waiting-for-public-transit locales: 2 wds.
38. Twofold, tiny-ly
39. Vacationer's keepsake
43. "Sure \_\_ standing here..."
45. Where Doha is the capital city
46. Final [abbr.]
47. Star: French
48. Admonition
49. "In \_\_ -Da-Vida" by Iron Butterfly
50. \_\_ Blue (Dandruff shampoo brand)
54. Prefix meaning "Sleep"
56. "Mister Ed" actor Leon
57. Wizard \_\_ (Comic strip)
58. Aggravate
59. Liable
60. Actress Charlotte

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Online

See today's answers at  
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## Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



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